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# THE TIMES

No 64,047 MONDAY JUNE 17 1991 40p

Challenger 2 choice will protect jobs

## King decides to buy British for new army tank

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE British Challenger 2 is almost certain to be chosen this week for the army's next generation of tanks, beating off competition from the United States, Germany and France.

Tom King, the defence secretary, will recommend the buy-British proposal to a meeting of the cabinet overseas and defence committee tomorrow.

Although the decision may not be formally announced this week, ministers will be under pressure from industry and from MPs to end one of the longest and most fraught defence procurement competitions for many years.

Mr King will have to make an announcement to the Commons before the end of the month as the tenders for the tank contract, issued by Vickers Defence Systems of Leeds, and its French, American and German rivals, run out on June 30. Until now, cabinet ministers have played no part in the three-year debate over whether the

army's ageing Chieftain tank should be replaced by the Challenger 2, the American M1A2 Abrams, the German Leopard 2, or the French Leclerc model. Mr King has, however, made up his mind after studying the military, financial and industrial implications put forward by the ministry's equipment policy committee.

Defence ministry sources say that the relevant papers have now been sent to the cabinet. It has taken a long time to reach a decision because some senior ministry officials felt that the American and German tenders carried certain advantages. These considerations were not, however, strong enough to overshadow Challenger 2, especially after its predecessor, Challenger 1, had performed well in the Gulf war. It broke down so infrequently that 95 per cent of the tanks were available for operations throughout the war. Challenger 2 is a new design, rather than an updated version of the model that the army has been using since 1983.

Mr King has not indicated any personal preference during the internal debate, but Alan Clark, the defence procurement minister, has hinted that he believes the British tank should win the contract. The American and German companies persuaded some ministry officials that any British job losses caused by a decision to buy from abroad would be offset by partnership arrangements with British firms.

If a foreign tender were accepted, however, about 1,600 jobs at the Vickers plants at Leeds and Newcastle, and a further 8,000 jobs at the company's suppliers throughout the country, would be at

risk. Sir David Plastow, the chairman and chief executive of Vickers, wrote to John Major recently, appealing for a decision to be made as soon as possible.

The tank contract will be much smaller than was envisaged when the tenders were first invited. Instead of a deal worth about £1 billion, involving the purchase of up to 600 tanks, the ministry is now expected to buy fewer than 150 models, at the rate of 32 a year from 1993. The contract will be worth about £300 million.

An option for a second batch of tanks could be delayed for some years, but Vickers hopes to win export contracts with the Middle East to fill the gap in domestic production. The decision to buy fewer tanks is in line with the government's *Options for Change* defence review, which is affecting all contracts planned before the Cold War ended.

Since two of Britain's armoured divisions are being withdrawn from Germany, and army manpower is being reduced by 40,000 to 116,000 over three years, the army no longer needs so many tanks. Some senior army commanders believe that the planned cuts in manpower should fall more heavily on headquarters staff. They fear that if too many generals survive, the frontline units will be undermanned and have insufficient equipment if they were called upon to fight a war. The army was stretched to deploy 170 Challenger 1 tanks with the British 1st Armoured Division during the Gulf war and those left in Germany were "canibalised" to ensure that there were enough spare engines and gear boxes.



Dust cover: children playing yesterday in the volcanic ash blanketing cars in Olongapo City, which is near the American naval base at Subic Bay in the Philippines. The volcano, Mt Pinatubo, which is 18 miles away, was still spewing molten rocks on the area last night

## Help for Lloyd's names possible

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE government is considering pleas from Lloyd's insurance market to make tax concessions in order to ease the plight of the underwriting "names" currently facing heavy losses.

Ministers have no intention of stepping in to bail out Lloyd's and its syndicates from their current difficulties. But, after representations which included a petition from Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, and Tory MPs who are "names" at Lloyd's, they have agreed to consider whether a concession made to businesses in this year's budget should be extended to Lloyd's.

Lloyd's has argued that the provision in Clause 64 of the Finance Bill, allowing corporations to carry losses over the previous three years to set against their profits, should, on grounds of fairness, be extended to its activities too. Francis Maude, the financial secretary to the treasury who is seeing through the committee stage of the finance bill, said yesterday: "Lloyd's have put a case to us which we are considering very carefully. No decision has yet been reached." Last week he told the committee that dramatic changes which would transform the prospects for Lloyd's were unlikely.

Mary Archer, the wife of the novelist and former deputy Conservative chairman, Jeffrey Archer, the first woman council member of Lloyd's, said yesterday that extension of the small business tax relief to Lloyd's would be "a fair, equitable and certainly a helpful arrangement". Dr Archer, chairman of Lloyd's members hardship committee, is seeking greater protection for "names" who accepted unlimited liability for potentially ruinous losses and are now having difficulty meeting their debts. "I think the names at Lloyd's are in a very difficult position," she said.

Continued on page 20, col 6

## Thousands flee from menace of volcano

From VAUDINE ENGLAND IN MANILA

TENS of thousands of panicked Filipinos crowded into buses and lorries or fled on foot yesterday from the erupting Mount Pinatubo volcano which has killed at least 65 people.

Packed buses, lorries and jeeps jammed routes out of a 24-mile danger zone around Mount Pinatubo, which bombarded nearby towns with pebbles, red hot lava and ash and forced the closure of Clark air base, the largest American air base in Asia. The United States began evacuating 20,000 dependants of American servicemen from Subic Bay naval base on the Philippine northwest coast as scientists said further explosions threatened up to a million people.

In Japan, scientists renewed warnings yesterday that another big eruption at Mount Unzen, which blew its top in a series of explosions last week, may be imminent. Kosuke Kamo, acting chairman of the Volcanic Eruption Liaison Council, said Mount Unzen's lava cone had grown about 65ft to 230ft since Friday.

In the Philippines, the first 700 Americans boarded a flotilla of three ships at Subic Bay for a 12-hour voyage to the central Philippine island of Cebu, which has an international airport. Yesterday, a two-mile long fissure along the southern side of Mount Pinatubo threatened to send

massive explosions southward. "There'll be one hell of an eruption if anything comes out of there," said Reynaldo Arboleda, a member of the Philippines Institute for Volcanology and Seismology.

Eight people were crushed to death when a hospital collapsed in Olongapo City. A school being used as an evacuation centre by hundreds of refugees collapsed, killing six. At least ten people were buried alive in mudflows.

Mr Arboleda said in an interview early yesterday that the intensified ash production by Mount Pinatubo told him "something big is happening". He went on: "I'm expecting something even bigger - a large area will be affected. Yes, it's scary. We're recording a kind of earthquake we haven't recorded before. It's kind of baffling, we don't know what will happen next."

Twelve hours later, President Aquino appeared on national television, and was told by the government's chief volcanologist, Reynaldo Punongbayan, that the big bang predicted by some of his staff may already have happened. He said that Mount Pinatubo has been in continuous eruption since Friday, but that the worst may be over.

A short but sharp earthquake then rocked Manila, unsettling residents only just adjusting to walking through feathery ashfalls all over the

## Congress in lead as massacre toll rises

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

AS FIRST results in the Indian elections gave Congress (I) the edge yesterday, the country was reacting with horror to the killings of train passengers by Sikh militants in Punjab which left at least 126 people dead.

The attack on Saturday night, in which Hindus were singled out, was the bloodiest act by Sikh militants since they began fighting for a separate homeland in 1982.

A reporter for Press Trust of India news agency said he saw bodies lying in a blood-soaked coach with bread clutched in their hands. "Their end came while they were having dinner," he said.

Of 37 seats declared in India's most traumatic election yesterday, the Congress captured 28 seats, while the Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party won eight. An exit poll said no party was likely to emerge with an absolute majority.

### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### GRANNY DEAREST?

Patricia Gale is happy living with her son's family. Would tax relief on granny flats improve the lot of others? Page 12

#### EUROPEAN

From Frisian to Occitan, the minority languages of Europe are looking to the trendsetting Welsh for their salvation Page 28

#### MODEL ROLES

Once they were lovers, tormentors, comforters. Are artists' models today the same sublime creatures? And who needs them? Page 13

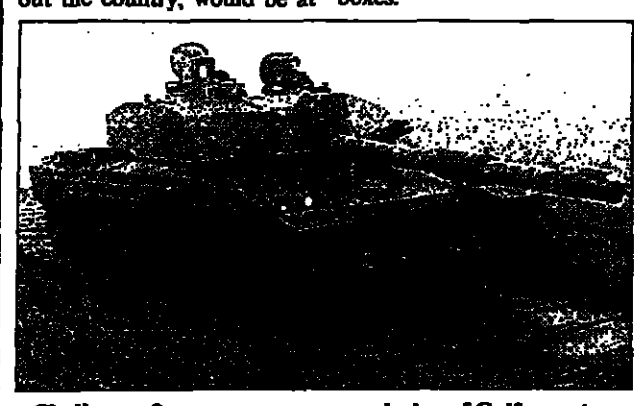
#### INSIDE

**Thatcher fears**  
Conservatives will be watching nervously for reports of the speech today, 4,000 miles away in Chicago, by Margaret Thatcher. They hope she will not back Bruges group demands on Europe. Page 20

**Power enquiry**  
The Office of Electricity Supply, which regulates the power industry, has been asked to look into a 40 per cent rise in charges paid by large industrial customers, who feel the post-privatisation pricing system is not competitive. Page 21

**Robson triumph**  
Bobby Robson, the former England football manager, ended his first season as manager of PSV Eindhoven by winning the Dutch league title yesterday. Page 36

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Challenger 2 on manoeuvres: new design of Gulf war star

## Snow falls as freak weather hits South

By WILLIAM CASH

SNOW fell in parts of Sussex yesterday as freak June weather brought flooding, traffic hold-ups and accidents to southern England.

Police in West Sussex reported up to 3in of snow on roadside verges, and the main A27 to Chichester was closed by thunderstorm floodwater almost a foot deep.

Elsewhere in the South, three railway workers were hit by lightning at Hungerford station in Berkshire. One was knocked unconscious and two others fell to the ground as the bolt struck.

Seven people needed hospital treatment at Basingstoke after a ten-car pile-up on the London-bound carriageway of the M3 during a hailstorm. Police communications were knocked out in parts of the South.

On the M40 at High Wycombe a lorry jack-knifed in a contra-traffic system blocking both carriageways in a rainstorm earlier yesterday.

A police spokesman described the weather conditions throughout the Thames Valley as appalling.

## Endorsement likely for Ulster chairman

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TALKS on the political future of Northern Ireland are expected to get under way today at Stormont and Sir Ninian Stephen, former governor general of Australia, is likely to get final endorsement as independent chairman for later stages.

It has taken Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, 17 months to arrive at the stage at which plenary sessions begin, and he has done so after overcoming a series of bitterly fought

Triple disaster, page 10 Mixed fortunes, page 11

## Dubliners spout Joyce and sink porter

A day-long Dublin wallow in James Joyce nostalgia is described by Bruce Arnold, literary editor of the Irish Independent

THE Dublin programme for Bloomsday, the glorious June 16 when the events recorded in James Joyce's novel, *Ulysses*, took place in 1904, is governed by a simple injunction: to celebrate early and often. This year, with Bloomsday falling on a Sunday, celebrations began the day before and were accompanied for 30 nonstop hours by Radio Telefis Eireann's brilliant, dramatised reading of the entire work. It went on throughout Saturday night, and into Sunday morning, so that the climax of Molly Bloom's soliloquy was the country's alternative listening, on the FM channel to high mass from Bridgetown

parish church in Killaloe, Co. Clare.

By Mass-time Joycean celebrants had "done" the James Joyce museum in the Round Tower at Sandycove, which opened at eight o'clock in the morning. At that hour no less than five television crews crowded in and climbed the narrow stairway in the steps of Buck Mulligan, to view in wonder the scrotum-tightening sea, and interrogate visitors from America.

The occasion is of serious moment to Joyceans world-

wide, and the current debate in Dublin is about Ulysses, copyright, scholarly rivalries, and the interests of the James Joyce estate. Arcane questions about Gertrude Mo-Dowell's drawers and Leopold Bloom's breakfast kidneys, have been replaced by speculation on how many different versions of the writer's greatest work will emerge when copyright on all of Joyce's works comes to an end on January 1, 1992.

The debate quickened mid-morning, when Patrick Lynch, the managing director

of Shell, Frank Feely, the city manager, and Michael Donnelly, the lord mayor, presided over a Bloomsday breakfast of gizzards, cods' roe, kidneys, black and white pudding, poached egg, and in due course burgundy wine. The confusion between the breakfast which burns on Leopold Bloom's stove while he is sorting Molly's underwear, and the lunch he takes in Davy Byrne's pub, of gorgonzola and more burgundy wine, is a heritage of the injunction to celebrate often. And in many other hostilities in and around the city, comparable breakfasts were being consumed. The



Joyce: he would have liked the options

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# High hopes for quiet Australian's mission on Ulster peace talks



Sir Ninian: no stranger to human strife

THOSE in Britain and Ireland expecting either a brash Australian or a Whitehall "yes man" in Sir Ninian Stephen will have a curious surprise.

Sir Ninian, the former Australian governor-general and High Court judge expected to chair the second stage of peace talks on Northern Ireland, is a most mild-mannered man who describes himself as apolitical. On the surface, the claim could prove to be the most important asset he could bring to chair the province's perilous waters, but it hardly means he is ignorant of political matters or a stranger to human strife.

Beneath his very English, even prim, exterior, is a man sympathetic with Australia's Aboriginal

and ethnic minorities. He has gained a broad understanding of the increasing racial and religious pressures between Australia's new migrant communities and its traditional white society. Unlike most Australians from a white English background, he believes the country's hugely diverse population must keep alive their native languages and cultures to create a genuinely multi-cultural society.

Sir Ninian is not afraid of political strife either. His enjoyment of foreign cultures and his campaign for Australia to learn from them put him at odds with John Howard, Australia's right-wing Liberal party leader, who again tried to make racism an electoral issue in 1989. "To lose

**Robert Cockburn in Sydney profiles the man expected to be endorsed today as the chairman for the talks on Northern Ireland's political future**

an ancestral tongue is to lose a whole heritage," Sir Ninian has said. His Scottish grandparents, he says, spoke Gaelic as fluently as English and he laments his own loss of their "richness of culture" in his own generation.

Despite the bespectacled image of an English civil servant, Sir Ninian is a robust outdoor type who has long enjoyed rugged treks

in the Australian bush and has a keen humour.

In 1982, just hours before he was due to welcome the Queen at Darwin airport, one of his five daughters was arrested for demonstrating on behalf of Aboriginal land rights. Of Australia's lavish 1988 celebration of white settlement, Sir Ninian said: "I think the Aborigines have been remarkably tolerant of the bi-centennial celebrations."

Indeed, there is even a whiff of republicanism about his current job heading the first big overhaul of the Australian constitution. When Sir Ninian was appointed earlier this year, Bob Hawke, the prime minister, made it clear he believed Australia would "inevitably" become a republic.

Other than that, British and Irish parties scrutinising Sir Ninian's words and deeds for any hint of public controversy will have to make do with an incident in 1985 when he was asked to stand down as a patron of the Australian Cancer Society because he smoked a pipe.

Born in Oxford in 1923, Sir Ninian was educated at Edinburgh, London, Switzerland and Melbourne's Presbyterian Scotch College. He came to Australia in 1940 at the age of 16 and served in the army as a lieutenant before attending Melbourne university. Sir Ninian practised as a barrister and solicitor from 1949 to 1952, taking silk in 1966. He became a High Court judge in 1972 and was appointed Australia's 20th gov-

ernor-general in 1982. As governor-general until 1989, Sir Ninian played down the symbolism of the crown. "I suppose my efforts have been to represent, really, the Australian nation to the people of Australia," he told one interviewer.

For Mr Hawke, Sir Ninian's proposed Northern Ireland appointment gives Australia the kind of important role on the world's stage he so much wants. Sir Ninian's appointment makes up to some extent for Mr Hawke's failure to secure Sir Malcolm Fraser, former prime minister, as secretary-general of the Commonwealth.

Diary, page 14

## No offer for Owen after refusal to join Tories

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

TENTATIVE plans for David Owen to be offered a government job have foundered on the former SDP leader's refusal to join the Conservative party and his attempts to win a deal to help to preserve the seats of John Cartwright and Rosie Barnes, his SDP colleagues in the Commons.

Dr Owen confirmed in the *Sunday Express* that he would be willing to join John Major's cabinet, although he insisted he was not "hawking himself about to the highest bidder". But there has been no formal offer and there have been no talks between the two since news of such a plan first leaked after a tête-à-tête dinner between the two in April. Mr Major and Dr Owen have never discussed directly the question of a cabinet post.

Government sources confirmed last night that there are no plans for a reshuffle and that no invitation to Dr Owen is contemplated.

Dr Owen, who says that nobody in his family has ever voted Tory without a stiff drink both before and afterwards, said in his interview: "Certainly I would be interested if offered a cabinet post by John Major. I believe

it is possible for different parties to work together for the good of the nation, although in this country coalitions have been confined to wartime."

Some senior figures in the cabinet want him to be made an offer, although one insisted yesterday that there is "no great plot". They have noted that Labour's increased lead in the opinion polls owes more to the ebbing of former Tory support to the Liberal Democrats, who have doubled their support since December, than it does to an increase in Labour's intended vote.

It is argued that centre ground endorsement from Dr Owen could boost the Tory opinion poll standing by 2-3 per cent and those pushing for his inclusion emphasise that Dr Owen and Mr Major have a genuine personal regard for each other.

Dr Owen went out of his way in the Commons last week to support the prime minister on Europe. He said yesterday that a lot of what Mr Major was doing was right for Britain and he was prepared to say so.

However, there is resistance at cabinet level and particularly among West Country Tories to any idea of Dr Owen coming aboard. Party managers, aware how jealousy Tory constituency associations guard their autonomy, can see no way in which Conservative candidates could be asked to stand down in Greenwich and Woolwich and in Dr Owen's Plymouth Devonport constituency to give the three SDP MPs the clear run which Dr Owen is seeking.

Dr Owen will not decide until next year whether to contest the election, now not expected before April 1992. Were he to fight his seat and lose or fail to contest it he would not be interested in joining a Conservative government from the House of Lords but would rather leave politics. He does not expect any move towards coalition government until proportional representation is adopted and will continue to press the case for that.

Asked what he expected to happen about any cabinet offer Dr Owen said yesterday: "I really do not know. It is not for me to decide. The ball is not in my court."

He told *TVam* earlier: "I want to see governments formed of more than one political party. I do not want to become a Conservative because I am not one."

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Leading article, page 15

## Reacting to 999 calls costs Yard £134 each

By STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

EVERY time the Metropolitan police react to a 999 call from the public it costs Scotland Yard an average of £134, according to new figures on the force's effectiveness.

Investigating a crime costs, on average, £259 in CID resources, while policing public-order events ranging from riots to football matches, marches, royal events and state visits costs an average £14,727 per event.

The figures - part of a developing exercise in testing the effectiveness of the country's largest force - which were published in the latest annual report a few days ago, show that, over a 12-month period ending in October last year, the Yard spent £1.5 billion in policing London, compared with £1.3 billion for the previous 12 months; a rise of 13 per cent.

Over the 12-month period, uniformed patrols accounted for 26 per cent of expenditure (£405 million), while CID work cost 20 per cent of the budget (£314 million). At the other end of the scale, traffic duties accounted for 7 per cent of costs (£103 million), protection duties for 3 per cent (£52 million) and community relations just 1 per cent.

The figure for answering each call for help from the public rose by £10 or 7 per cent compared with the previous figure of £124, while the CID cost increased by £39 or 15 per cent from £220. The increases are partly attributed to the rise in wages and pension contributions; police were given a 9.75 per cent pay rise during the period of the figures and civilian staff got a 8.5 per cent increase.

The public order figure rose by 42 per cent, or £6,282, to £14,727. One factor in the cost of answering calls may lie in the report's note about alarm systems. In 1990, police answered 343,000 calls, of which 97 per cent were false. On the basis of the Yard figures, that would mean a waste of at least £43 million last year.



Heading south: cyclists get going at the start of the 16th annual London to Brighton sponsored ride yesterday. More than 35,000 set off, hoping to raise over £1.4 million for the British Heart Foundation. The leaders completed the 58-mile journey in about two-and-a-half hours but some of the stragglers arrived in Brighton only at nightfall. Organisers claimed that it had been the world's biggest bicycle ride

## Major warned of breakdown risk to key council services

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister will be told today that the government's plans for the reorganisation of local government could lead to the breakdown of social services, education and other key services.

The chairmen of the county, district and metropolitan authority associations will meet John Major to express their fears that the proposed piecemeal approach to reorganisation will lead to an exodus of key staff. They will also warn that plans to extend the range of council activities which are required to be put out to competitive tender would lead to a further loss of talent from town and county halls.

The meeting, promised by Mr Major on his first day in office, has been delayed while the government carried out its poll tax review, which led to

the creation of the council tax and the plan to reorganise local government. Ministers have proposed the creation of a new Local Government Commission which would move around the country, area by area, redrawing municipal boundaries to create a single tier of all purpose authorities.

London and the metropolitan areas will not be affected by the process as they already have a single tier of unitary authorities. In the rest of the country either the county and the district councils will be abolished.

In a rare display of unity, county and district leaders will join forces to argue that the slow progress of the commission around the country will be matched by the flight of senior staff in key areas. They will tell Mr Major that the Commission should revive the

whole country at the same time to stop what one council leader described as "hedge-hopping" by staff seeking job security by moving to the new single-tier areas.

Local authority leaders fear that local services could break down in those areas which the commission reaches last as the best staff leave for safer jobs elsewhere. In particular they fear the loss of experienced social workers, school administrators and senior planners.

They also fear that the government's proposed extension of competitive tendering to administrative and financial work will lead to senior staff being recruited as consultants by private sector firms bidding for the work.

The effective introduction of the council tax in April 1993 and the winding up of the poll tax will, they argue, require the best local taxation brains.

## End of easy money for Lloyd's names

The days of big profits for modest outlay have gone.  
Angela Mackay reports

BECOMING an underwriting member of Lloyd's of London, the world's biggest insurance community, was originally a way for the monied classes to earn handsome returns for little outlay other than a gentleman's word.

An underwriting member, or "name", pledged his personal wealth in return for a share of his syndicate's profits. Often the name knew nothing about his syndicates except their numbers - management was left to an agent who charged a small fee.

For the past 100 years, discreetly wealthy individuals, actors, sportsmen, the aristocracy, MPs and a former prime minister, Edward Heath, have enjoyed the profits and cachet of being a name.

Sentiment has changed, however, since a series of disasters dating from the hurricane which devastated southeast England in October

1987. Until then, names could usually depend on the apportionment of profits after each year was closed-off and all claims were paid.

Now, with the proliferation of asbestos claims, which may take years to arise, some syndicates have been unable to close their annual accounts until the statute of limitations deems no more claims can be made. This, combined with the Piper Alpha tragedy, Hurricane Hugo, the Pasadena chemical plant explosion in 1989 which resulted in claims of £1.4 billion and a myriad of smaller-scale disasters, has brought many names to the brink of ruin.

Next week, Lloyd's is expected to announce a record loss of £500 million for 1988, and worse figures are expected for 1989. The sharp downturn has caused the number of names to fall 20 per cent since membership peaked at 32,800 in 1988. Today there are 26,550 names who face greater risk because there are fewer with whom they may share it and about 10 per cent of these are expected to withdraw at the end of this year.

Hard times have also befallen the listed composite insurers such as Sun Life, Royal Insurance and GRE. This week their representative body is expected to announce aggregate losses of £4.5 billion for the British industry in 1989 and, after the windstorms which swept Europe in January 1990, these groups are unlikely to steer their way back to profitability for years.

Lloyd's tax plea, page 1

## Labour increases its lead to 10 points

By OUR POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR is increasing its lead over the Conservatives, according to the latest opinion polls. A Harris poll in yesterday's *Observer* was the second in four days to show the Tories ten points behind Labour as the party's divisions over Europe continued to dominate the headlines.

Since the result of the Monmouth by-election the trend has been clear, as the table shows. Labour support has averaged 43 per cent plus or minus two per cent while Conservative support has averaged 35 per cent plus or minus two per cent, one poll excepted. With one exception, the Liberal Democrats have been at 16 per cent plus or minus one per cent. The figure

### THE LATEST POLLS

Poll	Fieldwork date	Lab	Con	Lib	Dem	Other	Lab lead
ICM	April 26-27	41	39	14	6	2	2
ICM	May 10-11	43	37	16	4	6	6
NOP	May 18-20	44	36	15	4	8	8
Mori	May 24-28	43	37	16	4	6	6
NMR	May 31/Jun 1	43	37	18	4	6	6
Harris	May 31/Jun 1	43	38	15	6	7	7
Gallup	May 27/Jun 3	41.5	39.5	21	4	8	2
ICM	June 7-8	44	34	17	5	10	10
Harris	June 12-13	45	35	16	4	10	10

of 45 per cent support for Labour in the latest Harris poll is the highest recorded since John Major became Conservative leader last November and the Conservative support of 33.5 per cent in the recent Gallup poll is their lowest figure since then. Last November, on taking

over, Mr Major had an 11 per cent lead. Now Labour's lead is 8 per cent, marking a 9.5 per cent swing to Labour since then despite Mr Major's successful prosecution of the Gulf war, the ending of the poll tax and the fall in inflation and interest rates. Conservatives are taking

some comfort from the longer time scale. A year ago in April Labour's lead was as high as 23 per cent. The turn-round in the thirteen months since then represents a 7.5 per cent swing to the Conservatives. If they could achieve the same swing over the next thirteen months they could still return with a majority similar to that they enjoyed in 1987.

The small print of the latest polling evidence from Mori, however, contains some worrying signals for the Conservatives.

Labour, unusually, is in the lead among the over 55s. Labour leads by 27 per cent in the Conservative marginals and only 36 per cent of people in rural areas are intending to vote Conservative.

## Enquiry likely to approve river crossing and runway

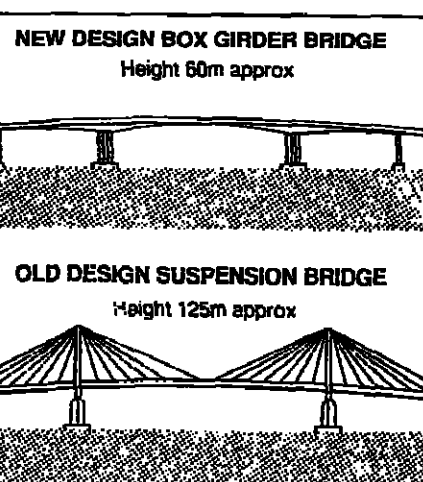
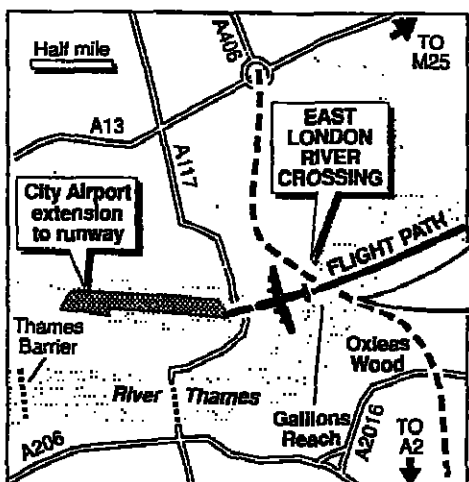
By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

TRANSPORT department officials are confident that the joint public enquiry into the proposed new river crossing in east London and the runway extension at London City airport.

Opponents argue, however, that the combined effects of the bridge, road and runway proposals will cause environmental damage, generate more road traffic and subject residents to added aircraft noise. The proposed £75.3 million six-lane crossing at Gallions Reach, which would link the A13 at Beckton, north of the Thames, to the A2 at Falconwood, south of the river, is part of the transport department's long-term plan for providing a coherent road network for long-distance

lead to a significant improvement in the road network in a notoriously congested sector of the capital, while also reversing the ailing fortunes of London City airport.

traffic moving through the capital. London City airport, at present restricted to propeller aircraft, needs the runway extension for jet aircraft to



attract more customers. The enquiry is the second to be held into the proposed river crossing. The first was between 1985 and 1986 and urged ministers to divert the

bridge approach road into a £20 million tunnel to preserve an ancient woodland. The recommendation was, however, rejected as too expensive by ministers in

1988 after a 15-month enquiry.

Local campaigners took their protest to the European Commission in 1989, arguing that the ministers' decision violated the European Community directive requiring an environmental impact assessment to be completed before a new road is built. Transport officials insist, however, that the EC directive did not come into effect until July 1988, four years after the draft orders for the approach roads were published, and that the directive cannot be applied retrospectively. The European Commission has failed to rule on the issue, possibly because officials in Brussels recognise they have no jurisdiction over road-building projects announced before 1988.

## Children's charities call for watchdog

By TIM MILES

CHILD welfare campaigners want the government to set up an independent watchdog to promote and defend the interests of children.

Leading charities, including ChildLine, Barnardo's, National Children's Home, the NSPCC and Save the Children, are supporting plans for a government-funded children's rights commissioner. The role of the commissioner is outlined in a report published today by the Gulbenkian Foundation.

The commissioner's main tasks would include influencing policy makers, investigating complaints and promoting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which the British government has yet to ratify.

The authors of the report, Martin Rosenbaum and Peter Newell, have written to John Major saying that recent scandals such as the Staffordshire "pindown" affair highlight the need for an independent voice for children. They told the prime minister: "In these cases the basic rights of the children and young people involved were violated, yet it was years before the situation was exposed and rectified."

The appointment would provide an effective long-term strategy for promoting children's rights in all areas, they added.

Roger Singleton, director of Barnardo's, said: "With so many different concerns about the quality of life for children and young people in our society, this is the right time to take a new initiative and the children's rights commissioner meets that need."

## Four die in house fire

A woman and her three young sons died after a fire at their home.

Shirley-Anne Crosby, aged 27, and her children William, aged seven, David, aged five, and Patrick, aged three, were killed when the blaze broke out at their house in Whitecross, near Falkirk. Central, at 3am yesterday. All four were dead on arrival at hospital. A police spokesman said it was believed there were no suspicious circumstances.

● A father-of-three was critically ill in hospital yesterday after a suspected arson attack at his flat in Chelsea, south-west London, early yesterday. He has not been named.

## RAF charge

A senior RAF officer is expected to face a court martial in a week's time after the theft last December of a laptop computer from the boot of his car which contained the secret deception plan devised by General Norman Schwarzkopf, the allied commander, to defeat the Iraqis. Wing Commander David Farquhar, holder of the Air Force Cross, is expected to appear at RAF Uxbridge military court.

## Ferry dispute

Cross-channel travel was disrupted yesterday because of a manning dispute in the French arm of Sealink. French crew were suspended and then locked out after sporadic strikes which culminated in a blockade of Calais on Saturday. Eight round-trips a day on the Dover-Calais route have been lost and three on the Newhaven-Dieppe service. A meeting is planned for tomorrow.

**Times Travel Service**  
Australia £27.50, Bahrain £19.50, Brunei £19.50, Canada £27.50, Cyprus £19.50, Denmark £19.50, Egypt £19.50, Finland £19.50, France £19.50, Germany £19.50, Greece £19.50, Hong Kong £19.50, India £19.50, Ireland £19.50, Italy £19.50, Japan £19.50, Korea £19.50, Kuwait £19.50, Lebanon £19.50, Malaysia £19.50, Mexico £19.50, Middle East £19.50, New Zealand £19.50, Norway £19.50, Pakistan £19.50, Portugal £19.50, Saudi Arabia £19.50, Singapore £19.50, South Africa £19.50, Spain £19.50, Sweden £19.50, Switzerland £19.50, Taiwan £19.50, Thailand £19.50, Turkey £19.50, USA £19.50, Vietnam £19.50.



# Breakthrough in the search for blood substitute claimed

By TIM MILES

SCIENTISTS have taken an important step forward in the search for a substitute for human blood, it was disclosed yesterday.

A substitute could save the lives of thousands of people who need blood transfusions when sufficient human blood is not available, for example on battlefields and in natural disasters.

American researchers have used genetic engineering to breed pigs which have haemoglobin in their blood which is chemically identical to human haemoglobin.

Haemoglobin is the chemical in red blood cells which enables them to carry to all other cells the oxygen which is essential to life. It could theoretically be used as an alternative to a blood transfusion.

Scientists at DNX Inc, a small bio-technology company in Princeton, New Jersey, have developed a technique to extract the "human" haemoglobin from pigs, opening up the prospect of large-scale production of a human blood substitute.

The substitute haemoglobin would not be in danger of being rejected by human bodies' own cells. It is this rejection problem which makes the matching of blood types in ordinary transfusions so important.

The substitute would be stored for months and would be free of any risk of human infection.

Mr Mike Whitlam, director of the British Red Cross Society, said yesterday: "This sounds like an extremely use-

ful development. If it is properly tested and researched it could be of enormous advantage both in Britain and, perhaps more importantly, abroad."

DNX, which gave details of their work in California yesterday, said that it could be at least five years before research and testing of pig-produced haemoglobin was completed.

They say there were serious questions about the safety of using haemoglobin extracted from animals for human transfusion.

However, the company is to apply this year to the US Food and Drug Administration for approval for human trials.

The DNX scientists began their work with the two human genes that control the body's production of haemoglobin.

They injected copies of the genes into day-old pig embryos taken from a donor pig. These were then inserted into the womb of a second pig and allowed to grow to term. Pigs were used because their haemoglobin closely resembles that of humans.

So far three of the pigs born have had human-type haemoglobin cells in their blood. The maximum achieved so far is 15 per cent of human-type cells, which have to be separated from the rest. But the researchers say they hope to raise this to 50 per cent.

Other attempts to make blood substitutes have run into difficulties partly because of the difficulty of purify-

## Aids 'industry' keeps pace with growing epidemic

FROM THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT, IN FLORENCE

THE international Aids bandwagon rumbled over the cobblestones of the Forzezza da Basso yesterday to disgorge 8,000 scientists, researchers and camp followers into what, for many, has become a dubious jamboree.

Ten years have passed since the first Aids patients were diagnosed in Los Angeles. In that time, the disease has spread across 163 countries, and the World Health Organisation estimates that ten million people are infected with HIV.

Aids has attacked more than 170,000 Americans since 1981, and another 6,000 develop the disease every month. Britain did not have a single known sufferer in 1981, but has documented "more than 4,500 cases since. As in America, just over half the British patients have died.

But while the epidemic grows ever bigger, so too does the Aids industry. The Florence conference is the seventh annual event of its kind. The bandwagon has visited Atlanta, Paris, Washington, Stockholm, Montreal and San Francisco, getting bigger and brasher every year.

At huge meetings such as this, hundreds of research papers are presented during scores of sessions with closed circuit television screens for those delegates who fail to scramble their way into the lecture halls. To get there, delegates have to cross minefields of exhibition stands manned by smooth-

talking dealers in medical hardware and computer software, safe-sex paperbacks and hardback textbooks, condoms and, of course, vaccines.

The Aids industry is worth a great many billions of pounds. Dozens of rival pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies have their eye on the priceless prize of a new drug that will keep Aids at bay, or a vaccine that will prevent it.

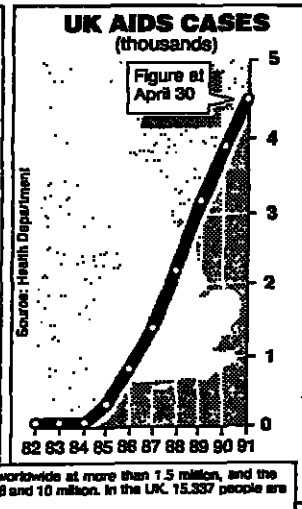
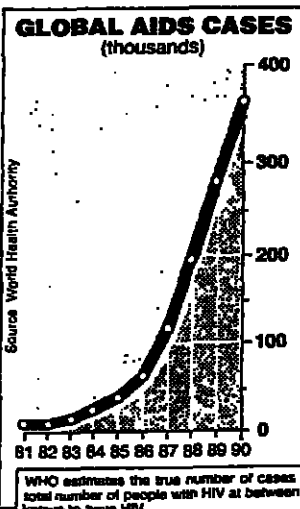
The trouble is that, in spite of the truly impressive progress in recent years in the understanding and treatment of HIV and Aids, the global epidemic is, and may always remain, beyond control.

By the year 2000, 40 million people worldwide may be infected with HIV, the World Health Organisation says. A vaccine may have arrived by then, but for them it will be too late. If and when it does arrive, who will get it first?

Who will decide, and who will pay? Will it go to the Americans, who are most likely to produce it, or the Africans, who are most likely to need it?

Such questions should be asked in Florence this week, but the leading science journal *Nature* doubts whether they will be answered. "The plain truth is that annual Aids conferences have become unproductive. It is time to re-evaluate this carnival."

After Florence, it may be over. Next year's meeting in Boston is threatened by an international boycott because foreigners with HIV are prohibited from America.



## £770 to restore Welsh rugby's glory

By TIM JONES

A PROFESSOR at University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, has been given a £770 grant to discover why the Welsh rugby team keeps getting thrashed.

There are thousands of fans in the valleys who would give him the answer for the price of a pint. Others would advise him to undertake a more simple task like unravelling the secret of alchemy or proving beyond peradventure the Big Bang theory of the beginning of the universe.

Gareth Elwyn Jones plans to use the money to see whether there is a correlation between the closure of the old grammar schools and the demise of the national team, who have managed in the past two seasons to collect only wooden spoons.

With his co-researcher, Stan Addicot, a respected rugby coach from Swansea, Professor Jones will conduct a survey of school rugby

facilities as well as canvass the opinions of local authorities and PE teachers. He wanted £5,000, and admits £770 will be inadequate to pinpoint why the national religion has collapsed.

Professor Jones, aged 52, remembers well the "golden age" of the 70s when Barry John walked on water and Dr J.P.R. Williams had the skill to treat his opponents once he had scythed through them.

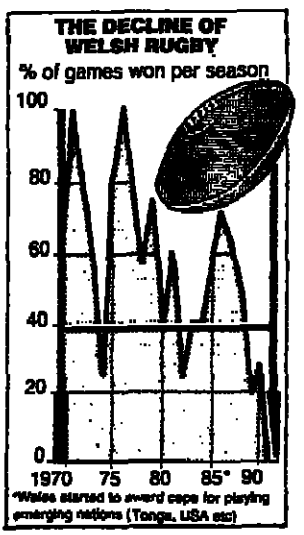
Wales have not won a five-nations championship match at Cardiff since beating England in 1989. In the worst of seasons, it was said that the Welsh "hwy!" — spirit — could always be relied upon to produce a win against the old enemy.

That myth was destroyed in January when England crossed the Severn Bridge and achieved their first victory at the Arms Park in 28 years.

As part of their preparation, the English, as they

travelled in their coach, had to endure recordings of an Arms Park crowd singing "Land of My Fathers" and "Sospan Fach", a song portrayed as a battle cry but which is, in translation, no more than doggerel.

It is a measure of the decline of the team that last



summer's victory over Namibia, not a nation highly regarded in rugby terms, was seen as some form of national salvation.

The truth is that in the top flight, the Welsh have been humiliated. Having been destroyed 49 points to six at Brisbane during the 1987 world cup, the team then made the mistake of touring New Zealand. In two games, they lost by 106 points to nine.

Professor Jones hopes that talks with local authorities and PE teachers will help. "I am trying to study whether the schools system is in some way to blame. If I begin to come up with answers I may be given more money to do a proper survey," he said.

For the Welsh team, time is running out. In October, they play in the world cup, and they will face Australia, Argentina and Western Samoa. If they progress they could face the all-conquering All Blacks.



Winning smile: Rhian Dudley (above) in her studio and (below) the anniversary card for the royal couple

## Romantic card fit for a prince

A THREE-dimensional card with a romantic Welsh poem expressing undying fidelity has won a competition to produce a 10th wedding anniversary card for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Prince's Youth Business Trust invited 60 of the graphic designers and artists it has helped to submit a card to send to the prince, the trust's royal president.

Rhian Dudley, who celebrates her 23rd birthday on the royal wedding anniversary, July 29, made the winning card in her D'Sign

Studio in Milford Haven, Dyfed, which she set up with a partner in April with a £3,000 loan from the trust.

The outside of her card says: "Celebrating 10 Years of Marriage". Inside, an anonymous Welsh poem reads: "While the water of the sea is salt, And while my hair still grows, And while I have a heart in my breast, I will be faithful to you."

Nancy Howard, 23, of Staveley, Cumbria, came second, and Angela Tarbatt, 26, of Chorlton, Cheshire, came third.



## So what's so special about Fathers' Day?

By JOHN YOUNG

MOST of Britain's millions of fathers will probably have enjoyed, or endured, the weekend without being aware that yesterday was supposed to be their special day of the year.

Mothers' Day is different. About £50 million is said to be spent on flowers alone to celebrate the maternal spring festival. But Dad? Maybe a packet of pipe cleaners or a bottle of after-shave.

The concept of Mothers' Day is attributed to Anna Jarvis, of Pennsylvania, who in 1907 invited friends to join her in commemorating the anniversary of her mother's death. A devoutly religious woman, the idea of commercial exploitation was doubtless as alien to her as it was to President Wilson, who in 1914 proclaimed an annual national observance of the glory of motherhood.

Fathers' Day — no one seems to know where the idea originated — enjoys less veneration. Dad is somewhere near the bottom of the league, well below granny and fighting for recognition along with kindly uncles, indulgent aunts and godparents who always remember birthdays.

That may be largely Dad's fault. One recent report castigated "workaholic fathers" who rarely saw their children except on the traditional Sunday trip to the park. "To many small children, men are seen as exciting but peripheral creatures who come home at night, pick them up and say goodnight."

Yesterday's luckiest father was probably Glen Pritchard, aged 31, whose seven-year-old son, Lewis, nominated him as Daddy of the Year. For this he

will receive a two-week family holiday in Disney World, Florida, and will have his likeness printed on the labels of three million bottles of Daddies Sauce.

One of Britain's newest fathers, Mark Loveday, of Fulham, south London, whose son Charlie arrived on Thursday, said yesterday was "absolutely chaotic".

## Charity might reclaim its missing £1.7m

SCOTLAND Yard's fraud squad is continuing investigations into the alleged disappearance of £1.7 million from the building society accounts of a national medical charity (Stewart Teadler writes). The charity's former deputy director, Rosemary Aberdour, was last seen after court action was taken to seize documents from her almost a week ago.

The action was taken by the National Hospital Development Fund, which helps the National Hospitals for Nervous Diseases, over doubts about a £100,000 cheque. In the High Court officials for the fund applied not only for return of documents but Miss Aberdour's passport, which the court refused to allow.

Over the weekend officials for the fund said they had received legal advice that the £1.7 million would be reclaimable from the building societies that held the accounts.

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## Give an extra £1 a week, Methodist church says

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Methodist church, drained by repeated fund-raising appeals, is asking its members to contribute an extra £1 a week each.

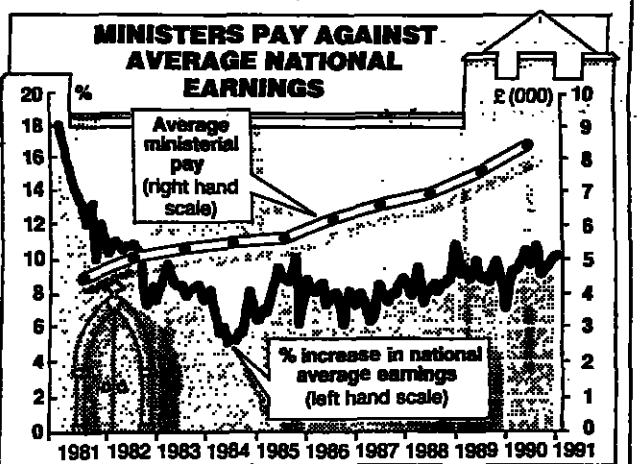
A church report says giving should be voluntary, cheerful, regular and in proportion to means, but the church believes many are giving far less than they can afford. It is reminding members of an edict of John Wesley, its founder, in his sermon on the use of money: "Having first gained all you can, and secondly saved all you can, then give all you can." Giving should be an act of service, not merely a response to pressing financial needs, church accountants say.

The report, *Buried Treasure*, says: "If we assume for argument's sake that giving within Methodism was being tithed [10 per cent of disposable income], we arrive at the incredible conclusion that members earned an average of £1,820 per annum."

Only another £1 a week would produce nearly £17 million. "No longer would there have been a need for special appeals to balance this budget or that, and there would still have been money in the kitty to expand the church's work," the report says. Methodists last year voted through a ministerial salary increase, from £8,456 to £10,000, at an average cost to each church member of £8. The pay rise, which comes into effect this year, is causing concern in some churches that are already struggling. At one Cornwall church, only seven people out of a congregation of 70 have jobs.

No precise central records exist, but accountants estimate that the church has an annual income of £75 million.

*Buried Treasure* (Methodist Publishing House, 20 Ivant Way, Peterborough PE3 7PC; £1.50 plus 25p p&pp)



## British Jews elect new president

By WILLIAM CASH AND RUTH GLEDHILL

A FORMER crown court judge was elected president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews yesterday after a close-run campaign comparable to a fight for a parliamentary seat. The election for the three-year term heralds a new era for the country's 350,000-strong Jewish community, which faces difficulties of assimilation, education and intermarriage.

Israel Feinstein, QC, a deputy of the orthodox United



Feinstein: keen to nurture Jewish identity

Synagogue, which forms the largest bloc on the 400-member board with more than a quarter of the seats, beat Professor Eric Moonman at the election at the board's headquarters in Tavistock Square, west London.

Judge Feinstein, who is a founder and now president of the Hillel Foundation, an agency for Jewish students, said after his election that he was particularly concerned with education within the Jewish community and that he wanted to encourage the nurturing of the Jewish identity within British society through, for example, Jewish cultural efforts. His main task would be to represent, defend and serve the Jewish community, protect it from anti-Semitism, and uphold the name of Israel.

## Author to restore Wytham Abbey

By JOHN YOUNG

ONE of the loveliest houses in England, Wytham Abbey, near Oxford, is being restored to its original elegance after years of neglect and disastrous interior alterations.

The scheme is a rare instance of restoration by a private individual at a time when many owners have converted their homes into flats, hotels or other uses.

The house is a 17th-century grey stone manor, which was given a Georgian gothic facelift in the last century. It stands on the edge of parkland with a view to the spires of the city.

The former home of the earls of Abingdon, it was sold in 1910 to Colonel Raymond Fennell, an educational enthusiast who had made money in South African gold mining. He left the house and estate to the university on his death in 1943. His widow lived there until her death in 1956, whereupon it was let to a property firm, which converted it into 14 flats let on 25-year leases.

After the leases expired the university put the house on the market for possible use as



Call of destiny: Michael Stewart and his wife Martine standing on the tower of Wytham Abbey yesterday

a hotel. But the hebdomadal council, the university's governing body, decided that under the terms of the bequest it must remain in residential use.

At that point, Michael Stewart, an Oxford graduate and author who had taken over the remainder of the lease of one flat, had the idea

of restoring the house as a family home. Eventually, he was granted a 125-year lease to embark on what he describes as his "inexorable destiny."

Mr Stewart has sold the derelict stables and coach house for conversion to flats, and plans to convert part of the servants' quarters into apartments. But he is angered by recent suggestions that he is contravening the

terms of Colonel Fennell's bequest.

He plans to move in to the house with his wife, Martine, and their two small daughters in a few weeks' time. "We have no delusions of grandeur," he says. "We are not a grand family. But I think it will be a very happy place."

## Scargill faces charges over funds

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CRIMINAL charges will be brought today by the government against Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, over the union's finances.

Similar charges will also be brought in Sheffield magistrates' court today against Peter Heathfield, the NUM's general secretary.

The charges, which will reinvigorate the row in the NUM over the union's money during and since the 1984-5 miners' strike, are being brought by the government's Certification Officer, the statutory body which oversees trade unions' affairs.

Under the 1974 Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, unions are required to keep satisfactory control, and submit proper accounts to the Certification Officer, currently Matthew Wake.

In the first case of its kind, Mr Wake is bringing three charges each against both Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield for failing to comply with the provisions of the Act. If convicted, Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield could face fines of £100 on each count.

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## Schools are accused of letting down gifted pupils

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

BRIGHT children are often let down by schools that do not recognise their special needs and they can end up as bored, disruptive drop-outs, according to the National Association of Gifted Children, which last year advised 1,600 parents on how best to help their children.

Michael Short, director of the association, told a weekend conference of parents: "Schools rarely recognise bright children's needs. They want support teachers who respond to their special abilities and a curriculum that will stretch and stimulate their interest. Too often, they get neither and end up bored, disruptive drop-outs."

He told the conference in Cardiff that too little was being done to help bright children. A survey of 108 local education authorities showed that only five had advisory teachers specialising in bright children. "It is unfair that vast resources are being spent on helping slow learners, while virtually nothing is being done to assist the brightest," Mr Short said.

He claimed that the national curriculum assessment tests would hold back bright children because they would be expected to reach only the levels of their classmates. He said that many parents were already choosing independent schools for their bright children.

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ren because of the smaller class sizes. The restrictions of the national curriculum would encourage more parents to take their children away from state schools.

The association is campaigning for a maximum class size of 20, which Mr Short said would benefit average and slow pupils as well as the gifted. Even in large classes, however, teachers could do a great deal to help their brightest pupils.

Michael Turner, head of St Ann's Church of England primary school, Bristol, told the conference how his school handled Ben, aged seven, a gifted mathematician. "Whether his parents or the school wanted Ben to become a prodigy as he only had the emotional and social skills of a seven-year-old," Mr Turner said. Mr Turner is also secretary of the National Association for Curriculum Enrichment, which aims to improve the curriculum to enhance the learning of bright pupils.

"We decided to stretch his potential by inviting sixth formers from the local comprehensive to come and work with him in mathematics, but he did every other subject with his seven-year-old classmates," Mr Turner said. While it was important for the gifted to experience the stimulation of working with similar minds, they should also learn how to mix with the average pupil. "It shows them that other children have talents too. Ben found that out when he had difficulty cutting paper with scissors. A friend had to do it for him."

Heather Barton's daughter Elizabeth, aged eight, has an IQ of 149, compared with the average 100, the reading ability of an adult, and she is three years ahead of her age in mathematics. "She finds school very frustrating. As she reads fluently at three she did not expect to go back to the basics at five. Even now she is irritated by not being allowed to work at her own fast pace. She is constantly being held back to enable her classmates to catch up - a situation which I fear could curb her obvious enthusiasm for learning," Mrs Barton, a teacher, said.

"Gifted children are often lonely and confused. Elizabeth reasons like an adult but has the social skills of an eight-year-old child. She does not fit into either world, and so feels isolated and frustrated."

Education, pages 28-29



Past and present: the Sheriff of Nottingham, Shankar Nawaz Khan, resting at the foot of a statue of Robin Hood, his legendary predecessor's arch-enemy

## Robin Hood money machine rides again

Nottingham's leaders expect a lucrative tourism spin-off from a new Robin Hood film, reports David Young

HE MAY not have existed and if he did he was probably a Yorkshireman. Nevertheless, he remains an enduring legend and a source of income to the city of Nottingham, which despite its many other attractions, would hardly be on the tourist trail of those from Nagasaki and New Jersey if it were not for Robin Hood.

The East Midlands city is now adjusting its civic doublet and hose to await a new tourist boom that is likely to follow in the wake of the film world's latest warming-over of the legend.

Kevin Costner has just swashbuckled across the cinema screens in Los Angeles in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, and on July 18 Nottingham hosts the European premiere. The influx of American visitors will make the inevitable jokes about the "little Johns" in the hotel bathrooms, but they and many others will also spend money in Britain's best provincial shopping centres, and in some of the best pubs and restaurants in the country. They will also be able to explore the area's connection with D.H. Lawrence, Lord Byron and William Booth.

The successor, if not the descendant, of Robin's constant adversary, the Sheriff of Nottingham, Councillor Shankar Nawaz Khan, a county council youth worker, first heard of the Robin Hood legend as a child in Pakistan. He said: "I didn't then realise that I would one day be playing the role of one of the central characters. Although then

the sheriff was a very negative figure the role is now a more positive one, and people react very favourably to meeting the Sheriff of Nottingham. In the past we perhaps have not exploited the connection, but the new film means a worldwide resurgence of interest.

"Robin Hood is a character whom everyone can relate to and we all feel that we have a bit of him in us. That is why the legend has lasted for over 700 years and is still fascinating.

The Americans who consume Robin Hood lore at the same rate as Fray Tuck consumed the King's venison have their own heroes who robbed from the rich to give to the poor in the shape of Billy the Kid and Jesse James. They at least can be authenticated, but the Robin Hood legend has never been finally pinned down.

However, he is an enduring hero. The author Paul Creswick ended his 1866 book with the remark that while Robin was dead, his name would live on "as long as the English tongue is known".

The subject has bred its own experts. Professor Sir James Holt, of Cambridge, was engaged as a consultant for the latest film. He is particularly pleased that Robin and Marian embrace through a "chapel" (garland) and is prepared to concede the anachronism of having Marian in the film at all, as she didn't come into the story until the 15th century. He accepts that there could be no Robin Hood film without Maid Marian.

The production designer had to find woods with native English trees - there were no pines in Sherwood Forest in 1195 - and the costume designer insisted on vegetable dye for all the clothing. It was important to find the chickens that were common in medieval England.

The most successful Robin Hood film to date was the 1938 version, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, with a 28-year-old Errol Flynn excelling with his sword play in a castle scene still considered a classic, although the 1922 version with Douglas Fairbanks Sr also has its addicts.

The Flynn film was the first Technicolor release by Warner Brothers and had a \$2 million budget. The production won three Oscars and remains one of the most popular re-runs on television today.

The first sound screen Robin was Warner Baxter in *Robin Hood of El Dorado* in 1936 and around 15 more films have followed.

The most unlikely Robin was Gaby Hayes as *Robin Hood of the Pecos* (1941). John Derek was in *Rogues of Sherwood Forest* (1950). Richard Todd took the part in *The Story of Robin Hood* in 1952, followed by Frank Sinatra in *Robin and the Seven Hoods* in 1964.

In 1976 *Robin and Marian* starred Sean Connery and Audrey Hepburn as the ageing couple and Connery's son, Jason, recently starred in a Robin Hood television series. The first television Robin was Richard Greene in 1955. Mel Brooks made a satirical version in 1975 called *When Things Were Rotten* and there has been a Disney cartoon version.

With such a screen history, film companies hope the re-emergence of Robin will be a box office success as big as *Batman*. Film fans who flock to Nottingham can also travel five miles south to the village of Gotham, which has given its name, if not character, to Batman's home town. They will also find that the spirit of Robin lives on in those who set the charges for multi-storey car parks. A case of robbing the motorists to pay for buses for the poor.

## US critics savage 'politically correct' film

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

FOR the second time in a month, America's film critics have massacred one of the year's most hotly awaited films. Last month, the reviewers helped consign the \$70 million (£43 million) *Hudson Hawk* to the league of great movie fiascos. This weekend, the target was *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, a 1990s visit to Sherwood Forest starring Kevin Costner and directed by Kevin Reynolds.

Mr Costner has gone all out to apply the social enlightenment now fashionable in America and so highly acclaimed in his *Dances With Wolves*.

His Robin has a black lieutenant, played by Morgan Freeman, and Maid Marian, played by Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, is a model of feminist capability.

They spend their time enforcing correct attitudes among the populace, as if they were eliminating the ills of sexism, homophobia and racism. The result, according to Vincent Canby, of *The New York Times*, is "a mess, a big, long, joyless reconstruction of the legend that comes out firmly for civil rights, feminism, religious freedom and economic opportunity for all."

Jami Bernard, of the *New York Post*, said she was amazed that the Merry Men were still allowed to eat meat, given that "everything is so politically correct that no one has any fun." Roger Ebert, an influential syndicated critic, dismissed it as "murky, unfocused, violent and depressing." Mr Costner, whose film is one of two Robin Hoods this year,

seemed to be playing Che Guevara with bow and arrow, Ebert said. The critic for the *Hollywood Reporter* said the best thing in the film



Medieval hero: an early woodcut of Robin Hood

was a brief appearance by Mr Connery as Richard the Lionheart. Most irritating for most of the critics was Mr Costner's failure to attempt

an English accent. Instead, he flattens his tones, producing an effect that some critics compared to California surf-speak. "If somebody yelled, 'Serf's up', this moonogger would go for his board," said Rita Kempley, another *Washington Post* critic.

Mike Clark, of *USA Today*, a mass-market newspaper usually kind to big movies, found the unlikeliest cut of all. Mr Costner's outlaw, he said, "suggests Dan Quayle with a sword."

The only actor to draw praise is Alan Rickman, who plays the sheriff with British gusto. When not torturing Saxons he is scheduling visits from wenchies. "Be in my room at 10.30," he commands one. "And you," he turns to another. "Be there at 10.45. Bring a friend."

## Most doctors referred to GMC have drink problem

By TIM MILES

DOCTORS with a drink problem account for more than half of the cases referred to the General Medical Council under its health procedures, according to the council's annual report for 1990 published today.

The GMC changed its rules ten years ago to allow referrals of doctors who had not committed a criminal offence or been guilty of serious misconduct, but whose health put patients' welfare at risk.

Under the procedures, doctors are placed under voluntary supervision and their practice can be limited, pending treatment. Since the procedures were introduced, 250 doctors have been referred. Of these, more than half had drink problems, sometimes in combination with drug abuse and mental illness, which

accounted for the other cases. Two-thirds of those referred were GPs or in hospital practice, and 85 per cent of all referrals were men. About 5 per cent of the doctors referred refused to be examined. In the past ten years, 75 doctors have gone on to appear before the



Sir Robin: concerns over unbalanced press coverage

GMC's health committee, because their condition deteriorated or they ceased to comply with voluntary supervision. Only the Health Committee can suspend a doctor from the GMC's register.

Dr Philip Connell said he was impressed by the number of "discouraging cases" that had been "transformed into success stories."

□ The GMC is to consider how to prevent hearings into allegations of indecent behaviour by doctors receiving "unbalanced" press coverage. Only nine of the 55 doctors who appeared before the GMC's professional conduct committee in 1990 were involved in indecency cases but these had received more press coverage, "giving an erroneous picture of the prevalence of such cases," said Sir Robin Kilpatrick, president of the GMC.

## Chocolate still tastes good after 90 years

THE confectionery company Rowntree may be tempted to consider a radical change in sell-by date policy after a 90-year-old bar of its chocolate proved edible.

The bar was one of 100,000 that Queen Victoria sent to South Africa before Christmas 1900 for British troops fighting the Boers. Its almost perfect preservation is interesting experts at Rowntree in York and at the Prince of Wales Own Regiment of Yorkshire Museum near by.

A test was carried out yesterday by Brigadier Malcolm Cubiss (retd), curator of the army museum. He said there was still a distinct chocolate flavour and even ventured to suggest it was milk rather than plain.

The man it was originally intended for died 90 years ago tomorrow. Lance Corporal Willie Fryer was a 21-year-old

## Hundred jobs to go in ITN cuts

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AT LEAST 100 jobs are to be shed at Independent Television News by the end of this month as part of a cost-cutting plan.

The redundancies, which could reach 150 out of 900 employees, have been proposed by management to meet an editorial budget for next year of about £60 million. The budget for the year beginning August 1 and the job losses will be discussed at a board meeting this afternoon.

Board members, shocked last March by the discovery of an unexpected £9.8 million overspend during the 1989-90 financial year, in addition to the £2.9 million projected deficit for the same year, are understood to be contemplating an editorial overspend in 1990-91 of at least £4 million, largely as a result of the high

costs associated with covering the Gulf war.

Independent Television News's shareholders, the 15 regional independent television companies which guaranteed a £10.5 million bank loan for the news provider during a cash crisis last September, had been warned in January that they could face a Gulf war bill between £3 million and £4 million.

Executives at ITN last night will not comment on whether this year's overspend is greater than forecast in January. ITN, which went over budget on its move last December to new purpose-built premises in central London, has been unable to lease several floors of the new building.

Reports that ITN's current-year deficit could be as high as £13 million as a result of the loss of expected revenue from the new building combined with editorial overspend were neither confirmed nor denied by an ITN executive.

Independent Television News must transform itself into a profit-making company by 1993, when its ITV company shareholders will be required by the 1990 Broadcasting Act to divest 51 per cent of their collective 100 per cent shareholding in ITN.

Bob Phillips, installed as ITN's chief executive last February, has introduced stringent management and financial controls and drastically cut staff expenses. He insists that the cuts will not mean that the quality of ITN's news bulletins will suffer, although he admits ITN will have to be more choosy about the stories it covers.

Management has rejected a proposal put forward by broadcasting unions last month to limit ITN salaries to £50,000 to save the company between £2.5 million and £3 million, thereby eliminating the need for redundancies.

## Rabbit damage could cost farmers £10m, says union

By WILLIAM CASH

DAMAGE caused by proliferating rabbits could cost farmers more than £10 million this year, says the National Farmers' Union.

John Lampitt, the union's public affairs chairman, who owns Thelshford farm, near Stratford-upon-Avon, said the difficulty with rabbits was serious because many had developed resistance to myxomatosis, the disease that wiped out a large proportion of the rabbit population in the last decade.

Mr Lampitt, aged 56, who has a mixed sheep and arable farm, said this summer's population explosion was the worst he could remember. "The problem has become more prevalent and more damaging than ever before

and instead of being simply annoying it is now a major area of concern to farmers around the country."

Hugh Oliver-Bellasis, who owns a 3,000-acre farm at Wootton St Lawrence, Hampshire, believes that his rabbit population has returned to pre-war levels. In 1985 he estimates he was killing 400 to 500 rabbits a year. Now the figure is 5,000.

Mr Oliver-Bellasis, aged 46, said that controlling rabbits today was more difficult because of restrictions on the use of certain snares. In addition, many urban dwellers failed to understand that rabbits were pests costing farmers thousands of pounds in damage and not simply cuddly balls of fluff out of the



Trouble with rabbits: Hugh Oliver-Bellasis in a field of damaged spring barley

pages of Beatrix Potter. In the summer, controlling the rabbits was especially difficult because thick overgrowth often covered over the burrows, making the use

of chemical gases a possible health hazard. In the winter, gassing was more effective. Under present legislation, the use of cyanide gas was allowed for rabbits but not

for fox dens. That could create difficulties because it was often difficult to distinguish between them.

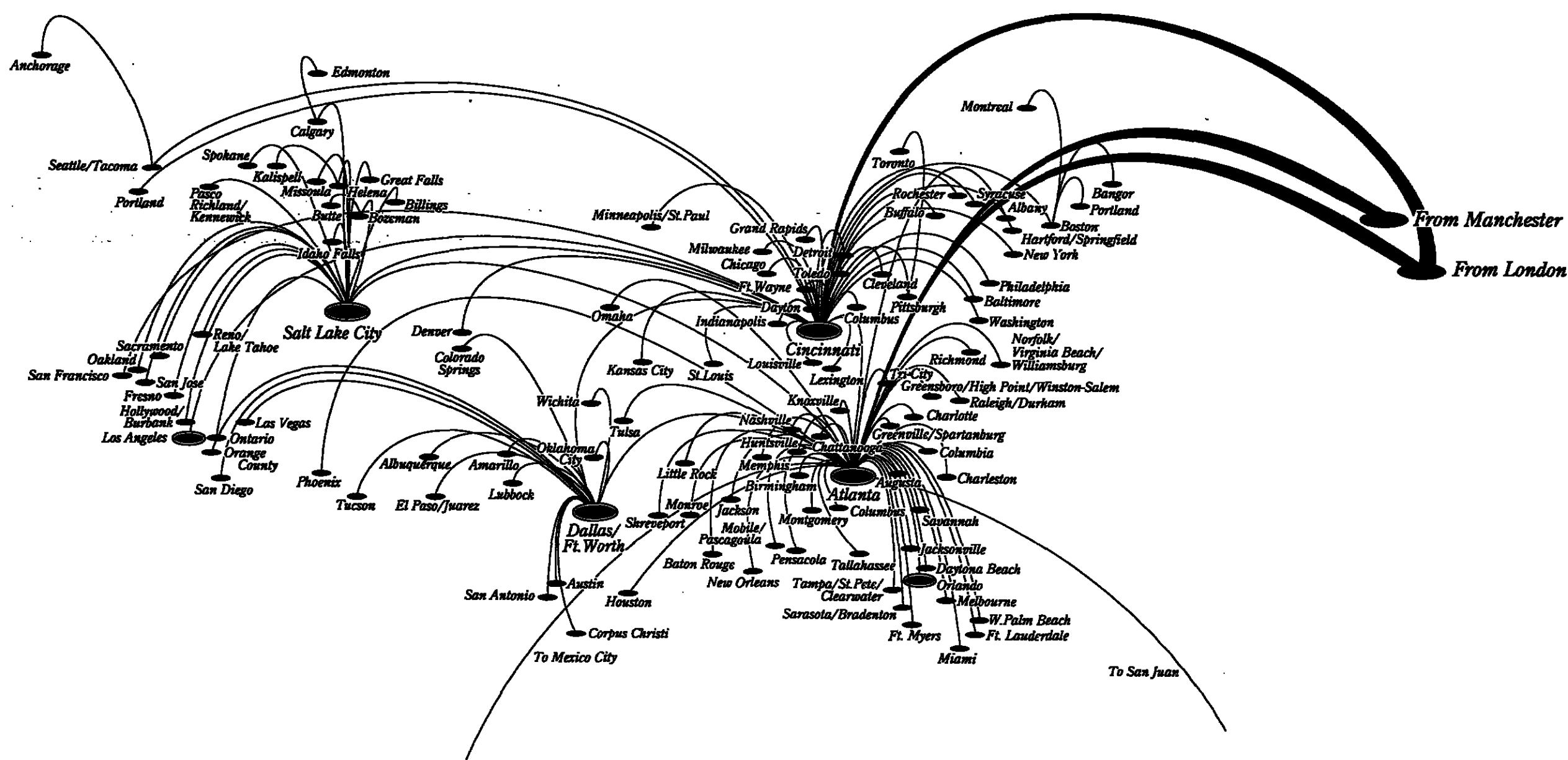
Mr Oliver-Bellasis has two keepers who spend part of

each day controlling rabbits, mainly by shooting them, as well as two extra men whom he brings in when the problem is serious. In effect, he says, he has one man working full time on curbing rabbit breeding. Many smaller farms would have difficulty finding such manpower levels, he said.

The epidemic has affected most parts of the country, especially Scotland, Norfolk and Wiltshire. The National Farmers' Union has called for better measures to restrict the damage done to forestry plantations, cereal crops, green land and other areas, and tighter controls to enforce non-farmers to restrict rabbit breeding on land which is near farmland, such as British Rail land or motorway banks.



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# Old guard uses plight of Soviet poor to tarnish reformers



Shevardnadze: greeted by stream of rioters at home

THE Soviet political centre has moved clearly back towards the reformists after Boris Yeltsin's election victory as president of the Russian Federation and President Gorbachev's endorsement of it. But hardline conservatives have increased to fever pitch their attacks on radical politicians and policies.

Their loud complaints seem intended both to distract attention from Mr Yeltsin's victory and to discredit in advance calls for a social democratic party that could split the ruling Communist party. Weekend newspapers ignored Mr Yeltsin's victory, choosing to concentrate instead on the plight of the Soviet Union's "new poor".

A sudden rash of articles drew attention to people who could no longer afford to send their children to summer camp, obtain life-

*Attacks by hardliners on those seeking the political middle ground in the Soviet Union have sharply increased since Boris Yeltsin's election victory, Mary Dejevsky writes*

saving medicine or buy basic necessities because of the April price rises. They described empty tables in workers' canteens, young people dying of common illnesses and elderly women reduced to hawking. The unstated message was that such outrages would multiply if Mr Yeltsin and his team proceeded with the policies of reform and privatisation they have promised.

The chief target of the personal attacks was Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister, who returned at the weekend from several weeks

abroad to be greeted by a stream of rioters. The disciplinary committee of the Soviet Communist party, of which he is still a member, had started an investigation after his appeal for the creation of a new democratic party. The newspaper which had fought hardest to prevent Mr Yeltsin's election, *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, published a scathing attack on Mr Shevardnadze which accused him of doing as much damage to Soviet interests as "the third world war which, fortunately, has not happened".

Returning to allegations expressed last year that Mr Shev-

ardnadze single-handedly "lost" Eastern Europe, the article, written jointly by an academic economist and a member of the Russian Communist party's hardline leadership, said the years of perestroika had "reduced a formerly great power heading a bloc of union states into a second-rate country". This, it said, was something without parallel "either in domestic or foreign history".

The article, the strongest attack on Mr Shevardnadze since his resignation, said that he had built his career on making concessions, which was why he was so popular in America. "While the Americans were using traditional methods to solve their national problems in Libya, Panama and Iraq," it said, "we were fooling around with slogans about de-ideologisation, univer-

sal nuclear emasculation, the "European home", which no one took seriously."

While Mr Shevardnadze has for some time been the target of conservative criticism, the new wave of attacks suggests a drive not just to discredit him personally but to prevent his ideas from spreading. The concept of a democratic party which he broached in Vienna last week is one that conservatives appear to regard as especially dangerous. The need for such a party has been mentioned by several influential Communists in recent weeks, and those attracted to the idea are thought to include several people close to Mr Gorbachev, including Aleksandr Yakovlev and the unsuccessful presidential candidate, Vadim Bakatin. Mr Yeltsin's running mate, Aleksandr Rutskoi, who

two months ago founded the reformist "Communists for Democracy" faction in the Russian Communist party, also occupies similar political ground.

A senior hardliner in the Soviet Communist party, Aleksandr Sergeyev, last week was collecting signatures to try to force an emergency central committee meeting to discuss, among other things, the "expulsion from the party of Gorbachev's faction for pursuing anti-people policies". The reformist *Komsomolskaya Pravda* said at the weekend that calls for an emergency central committee meeting should not be dismissed outright.

"The party should, after all, come clean about its position. Whose side is it on? Is it with the people or will it carry on trying to squeeze society into too narrow an ideological framework?"

## Hardliners set to attack Gorbachev's federal deal

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

IN THE latest sign of success for President Gorbachev's twin strategy of reforming the country's power structure and rescuing the economy with Western help, delegates from nine Soviet republics are expected today to approve the text of a new federal treaty.

But both policies are likely to come under sharp attack this morning at a debate on the state of the country in the national parliament, where support for strong central authority and suspicion of market economics remain strong. Mr Gorbachev predicted at the weekend that a new treaty remaking the country as a looser federation would be signed in July. It would be initiated today, then referred to the parliaments of the nine republics which want to stay within the Soviet Union. The document's cur-

rent version is anathema to hardliners in the Moscow legislature, who claim it gives the republics, starting with Boris Yeltsin's Russian Federation, so much power that the union will cease to exist as a state.

The hardline deputies have been promised a say in the final drafting process by the parliament's chairman, Anatoli Lukyanov, a senior Gorbachev ally who has himself campaigned vigorously against conceding too much power to Mr Yeltsin and the other regional barons.

Today's debate will show how far Mr Lukyanov and more hawkish members of the leadership, such as the interior minister, Boris Pugo, are prepared to go along with Mr Gorbachev's current line of conciliation with the republics and the West. If the hardliners openly oppose his present policies, that will increase his dependence on tacit support from Mr Yeltsin, his old adversary, who flies to Washington tomorrow after his triumphant election last week as Russia's executive president. The Soviet leader said on Saturday that Mr Yeltsin's victory was an endorsement of the new consensus between Moscow and the republics, and of the "real steps towards radicalisation of reform" recently taken.

He also thanked President Bush for having shown solidarity "at a difficult time" by authorising credits to buy American grain worth \$1.5 billion (£910 million). He also formally accepted John Major's invitation to meet the heads of the Group of Seven leading Western industrialised countries after their London summit.

Mr Gorbachev told state television that it was trivial and irresponsible to say that he was going to London as either a beggar for economic aid or a blackmailer. His intention was to present his views on how the West and the Soviet Union could co-operate to the advantage of both sides.

Fresh encouragement for Kremlin efforts to involve the West in rescuing the economy should come today when European Community foreign ministers release some \$460 million in technical aid frozen in January after attacks on the Baltic republics.

Leading article, page 15

## Plan for Ukraine currency

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

IN THE gloomy corridors of Kiev's Cabinet of Ministers, building decisions are being made which will affect the future economic unity of the Soviet Union. The grey granite block that served as a headquarters for both Stalin's and Hitler's attempts to break the resistance of the Ukrainian people now houses Ukrainian politicians trying to regain their industrial might from Moscow.

Within the next fortnight ministers will present the republic's supreme soviet with proposed legislation on a stock exchange, a customs service and a national taxation policy.

These bills, together with moves to control union-run factories and the arms industry here, amount to a declaration of economic independence by the republic's Communist government, breaking the Kremlin's control of its 52 million people.

The Soviet Union is based on the key relationship between the Russian Federation and the Ukraine, which together produce 80 per cent of almost everything from wheat to machine tools and tape recorders. Yesterday economic advisers and politicians met to discuss the expected announcement of an independent Ukrainian currency.

The chairman of the Ukrainian supreme soviet committee on economic reforms, Volodymyr Filipchuk, said: "Why should we pay Moscow for printing unconvertible roubles, which will only collapse, when we can print our own currency? ... money is power."

Several plans for a national currency and denationalisation of property are being considered. The most likely option envisages a rouble stamped solely for use in the Ukraine. The probable development of a separate currency, possibly called the *kyvni*, will follow over a 12-month period, regardless of developments in other parts of the Soviet Union.

Mr Filipchuk said: "The Ukraine today has export possibilities estimated at six billion hard roubles which is forcibly extracted by union structures at a laughable rate." In spite of a lack of investment over the past ten years, the republic's economy is estimated to be among the strongest in the Soviet Union.



Musical interlude: a child riding her tricycle through the waiting ranks of a Soviet army band at a festival held in Moscow's Gorky Park

## Security pact to be given teeth to prevent conflict

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AN EMERGENCY procedure to allow any European country fearing a threat from its neighbours, or suspecting a violation of the Helsinki accords, to call for a full meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe is likely to be agreed by foreign ministers of the 34 CSCE signatories in Berlin this week.

The procedure will allow any state suspecting a "serious disruption endangering security and co-operation" to demand an explanation with-

in 24 hours from the country posing the threat. If this is not forthcoming, the complainant, with the backing of at least six other countries, can demand an immediate meeting of all 34 signatories to discuss the threat.

The new procedure is an attempt to give more teeth to CSCE and satisfy Eastern Europe that the Paris Charter, signed last November, can give adequate security to former Warsaw Pact members who are worried about a

security vacuum. Nato's refusal to open its doors to the new democracies in the East has left them feeling abandoned and vulnerable.

The plan will be a main recommendation when they meet for the first review conference since last year's signing of the charter. Britain and other European Community members back the proposal, but want safeguards to prevent countries such as Cyprus calling for emergency meetings every few weeks. A proposed restriction is that no threat would be reconsidered until after another full CSCE review by foreign ministers, scheduled to take place once a year.

CSCE comprises all European countries, except Albania, together with the United States and Canada. Albania will be an official observer in Berlin and has applied for membership, a move likely to be approved. More contentious is the status of the three Baltic republics. They were ejected from the Paris meeting after a tussle between the West and the Soviet Union. The West is now urging Moscow to accept special guest status, as proposed by the German press, which would allow Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia to attend the meeting.

## Moldavians flock into Romania

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BUCHAREST

JOSTLING their way across crowded bridges, hundreds of thousands of Soviet Moldavians yesterday entered Romania for the day in a nationalist celebration named "the bridge of flowers".

The day was a return match for the Moldavians, two-thirds of whom are ethnic Romanians, since Romanians, also numbered in the hundreds of thousands, were last year allowed to cross the River Prut into Soviet Moldavia. Tossing flowers into the river, many Moldavians yesterday also waved the red, yellow and blue tricolour which is both the Romanian flag and, since nationalists came to power, that of Moldavia. Many day-trippers also came across waving placards with the names of family members they hoped to meet.

By midday, Radio Bucharest reported, about 500,000 people had participated in the event. The radio also reported traffic jams involving thousands of cars and coaches on the Romanian side as people came from all over the country to meet loved ones, take part in folk music performances and hold mass picnics.

Soviet Moldavia is made up of much of the old Romanian province of Bessarabia. This

was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940, along with the Baltic republics. It was briefly recaptured by Romania which, allied to the nazis, participated in the invasion of the Soviet Union that began 50 years ago this week.

Moldavia is now pressing for independence, but many assume that this would simply be a prelude to reunification with Romania. Ion Solcanu, a deputy from Romania's ruling National Salvation Front, said that he "looked forward to the day when we will be united ... and again be what we were, and even more".

Since the revolution of 1989 the Romanian government has avoided making an issue of Soviet Moldavia and there has been anger on both sides about the recent signing of a "friendship and co-operation treaty" between Moscow and Bucharest. The Romanian government last week expressed its disapproval of Moscow sending ministry of the interior "black beret" troops to Moldavia.

Bucharest also supported the aspirations of Moldavians for "the consolidation of their sovereignty and their independence". Over the past year there have been increasing government contacts between Romania and Moldavia.

## Hurd to face EC picket on pay

Brussels — Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and his European Community colleagues will run the gauntlet of a picket line of EC civil servants in Luxembourg today. The Eurocrats are on strike for the first time in ten years to protest against a plan to cut the automatic indexation of their salaries (Tom Walker writes).

The action, planned to last throughout tomorrow, will deny the foreign ministers access to documents and secretarial services. Freelance interpreters have been brought in. The European Commission building in Brussels will be closed officially and in Strasbourg work will also stop.

An official of the parliament said it was "a populist view" that Eurocrats were overpaid. He said the EC was losing to the private sector in recruitment. The unions negotiating with the EC Council of Ministers on behalf of the 25,000 EC workers want to renew their index-linked contract, which will expire on July 31. Council sources say Britain, Germany and The Netherlands favour an end to indexation.

## KGB gives 4m as Stalin toll



Vladimir Kryuchkov, the head of the KGB, has said that 4.2 million people died in the purges and forced collectivisation under Stalin, according to Tass news agency in Moscow. He said that between 1937 and 1938 some two million people, including "many foreigners", died. Western reports have said that the figure may be as high as eight million. (AP)

## Bonn favoured

Bonn — The Bundestag (parliament) is likely to decide on Thursday not to move to Berlin but stay in Bonn. According to a poll in *Bild am Sonntag*, 343 of 662 deputies support Bonn. But the newspaper said that most deputies favoured moving the Bundestag (upper house) to Berlin. (Reuters)

## Resignation call

Vienna — Forty per cent of Austrians want the immediate resignation of Jörg Haider, the right-wing Liberal party leader and governor of Carinthia, who praised Hitler's employment policies in a recent parliamentary debate, the *Arbeiter Zeitung* newspaper reported. (AFP)

## Palermo blast

Palermo — Depressed by the death of her mother, Lucia Cargnino turned on the gas in her flat here and waited to die. Sicilian police said. While she waited she lit a final cigarette. The resulting explosion killed three people and injured ten. Signora Cargnino, however, survived. (Reuters)

## Petrov dies

Melbourne — Vladimir Petrov, above, the Soviet spy whose defection in 1954 provoked political uproar in Australia, has died in a Melbourne hospital, aged 84. It was reported yesterday. Petrov was formerly a third secretary at the Soviet Union's Canberra embassy. (Reuters)

Obituary, page 16

SWISS NOTEBOOK by Philip Jacobson

## Sober citizens fall to wiles of a flutter on the horses

by Mutuel agreement.



conducted an impromptu seminar on the complexities of the fabled tiercé, which tempts great numbers of the French to try to select the first three home in the big race every Sunday.

Earlier this month 50 similar establishments in the French-speaking region of Switzerland began selling tickets for the races at, among other courses, Longchamp, Chantilly and St Cloud. Business was brisk, it seems, especially in Geneva. Deeper in the mountains, one bold soul

financial matters. In Zurich, one feels, they would no sooner risk their francs on a nag than eat a horsemeat steak. Besides, the odds are far better on the international currency markets.

Elisabeth Kopp is not exactly a name to conjure with in some circles here. She was, it may be recalled, Switzerland's first woman minister, responsible for the justice and police departments. She fell heavily from grace two years ago after her financier husband was caught up in a complex scandal involving the alleged laundering of drug money through Swiss banks.

Mrs Kopp resigned after being accused of alerting him to government investigations. She was later charged with breaching of-

ficial secrecy although she was subsequently acquitted.

Now she has set tongues wagging again by posing for a popular German magazine clad in the red-and-white flag of Switzerland to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the founding of the federation. There is nothing remotely suggestive about the photograph as one newspaper unkindly observed, a world of difference lies between Brigitte Bardot as Marianne, incarnation of France, and Mrs Kopp as Helvetia.

Nevertheless, this sort of thing is not done in polite society here. Mrs Kopp's political enemies naturally had a field day, although one of the country's best-known film stars did venture the observation that it was time the Swiss stopped being in such dead earnest about the

anniversary and learnt how to enjoy it.

With applications for political asylum running 85 per cent ahead of last year's record level, the Swiss authorities are searching desperately for a way of reducing the pressure on their traditionally hospitable system.

Opponents of a policy which effectively allows anyone who sets foot on Swiss soil to claim asylum simply by uttering the word (or by brandishing it on a bit of paper) say it is being abused by people who are, in fact, "economic refugees" seeking a better standard of living.

Since the mass of recent arrivals have been from the Third World, the extreme right of Swiss politics has been able to exploit deep-

rooted feelings about the preservation of the "true" nation. The other day a respected cleric, who is actively involved in helping immigrant communities, was arrested after being anonymously accused of organising a secret meeting between a group of Kurds seeking asylum and a leading film-maker.

Switzerland's reputation as the land where everything that is not compulsory is forbidden is safe in the hands of the police of Bern. Jogging capital early one morning, I was sternly reprimanded for running in the totally deserted lane that is reserved for cyclists. Repetition of this grave offence would involve a summary fine, the officer warned me.





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## The Philippines struggles to cope as tremors and typhoons are added to volcano disaster

## Manila is hit by eruptions as well as storms and quakes

FROM VAUDINE ENGLAND IN MANILA

WHITE-GREY volcanic ash shrouded Manila yesterday and cut off air links to the outside world as the fallout from Mount Pinatubo was blown across a wide area by a typhoon.

As the Philippines coped with the volcano eruptions and tropical storms, a third disaster hit as earthquakes — said by scientists to be unrelated to the volcano — shook buildings in Manila. The international airport remained closed yesterday. Ash carpeted the runways and remained thick in the atmosphere, threatening to clog jet engines. Domestic flights were also suspended.

Residents in Manila swept ash off their roofs, yards and cars, and government doctors told people to protect themselves against respiratory and skin irritations. Swirling storm clouds filled with mud and laced by lightning flashes turned day into night. Roads were blocked by knee-deep ash and pumice.

Stones the size of tennis balls fell on Olongapo, beside the sprawling American naval dockyard at Subic Bay, as the volcano, 18 miles away, unleashed a series of increasingly violent eruptions. The earthquakes, falling rocks and ash, and a progressive breakdown of services and overcrowding in government evacuation centres raised tensions in Manila as the volcano, 60 miles to the north of the capital, continued to erupt. Bridges have collapsed in mudflows, roads have been closed and scores of buildings destroyed by the weight of ash and rocks.

The United States embassy in Manila said more evacuations of American personnel are necessary. So far 700 dependents in American navy ships have headed south to the island of Cebu, where they are

to be provided with onward travel to the United States. They had left Clark air base a week ago, believing that they would be safe in Subic Bay.

The environment around Mount Pinatubo is now one of total darkness and mayhem, even at midday. In Manila, volcanic ash piled on pavements, affecting people's eyes and breathing. Gusts of ash blew in the streets and people were warned to stay indoors.

The last time Manila experienced an ashfall was in 1911, when Taal volcano, adjacent to the capital, erupted. Historical accounts suggest that ashfall from a closer crater was much lighter than the fallout from Pinatubo.

At least two new evacuation centres are being set up outside the volcano danger zone: Camp Aquino in Tarlac, and a sports complex in Bulacan. The National Disaster Coordinating Council, chaired by the national defence secretary, Fidel Ramos, is looking for more sites.

One evacuation centre has now opened in Manila — the Amorantos Sports Complex. But thousands of evacuees brought there were huddled outside, as a "Jesus Miracles Crusade" regular Sunday session was under way. One woman said she and her family had fled from Angeles City, 40 miles north of Manila. She described Angeles as a ghost town, "like a desert because of the (volcanic) sands".

While evangelists sang inside the hall, some of the evacuees outside said it was an act of God to rain ash and mud on the two American military bases (Clark air base and Subic Bay naval base), at a time when negotiations to extend the Americans' lease were almost over.

For those fleeing Pinatubo's

fury, there was little time to plan their escape. Thousands of people trekked across a wasteland of grey mud using every available means of transport. Precious possessions — pigs, chickens, cooking pots, a bag of rice, even a bicycle — were being carried on shoulders. Mothers breastfed their children while rocking in carts along tracks in the ash.

A covered market in Olongapo City was destroyed and converted schoolrooms, used as evacuation centres, also collapsed. A nine-year-old American girl was killed when the schoolroom at the American Subic Bay naval base fell in.

Even the volcanologists, who have been watching Mount Pinatubo since its first splutter in April, are beginning to feel the strain. One said: "We have no real understanding of this mountain. We were not able to understand it would be this big."

President Aquino suspended classes in the capital and told people to refrain from going outdoors, recommending that if they really had to go out, they should put a wet cloth over their nose. Those who inhale the ash may suffer bronchial congestion and blockage of the lungs, doctors warned.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the ash consisted mostly of silicates and sulphates in crystalline form, so there was little danger of it dissolving and contaminating water supplies.

Health officials said the filtration system should be able to keep water supplies safe. But they warned people against drinking from open sources such as wells, saying such water should be filtered and boiled first.



Night flight: Filipino residents of Angeles City fleeing the eruptions of Mount Pinatubo on bicycles and pushcarts on Saturday night

## Evacuation raises strategy doubts

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

EVACUATION of Clark air force base in the Philippines because of the volcanic eruption from Mount Pinatubo has put in doubt the future of American military operations in the area.

Although "everything that can fly" has been removed, the base still has sensitive communications equipment that needs to be guarded. A Pentagon official said yesterday that the Philippine military was helping with guard duties. American soldiers camped in schools in a town a few miles east of the base were also patrolling.

The two squadrons of F4 Phantom fighters which used to be stationed at the base had already left as part of a Pentagon review, he said. The only aircraft permanently stationed at the base were C130 Hercules transports. These were removed before the latest volcanic eruption.

The 15,000 American troops and their families at Clark were also evacuated to Subic Bay naval base in a huge convoy of buses and cars. The Pentagon official was unable to say whether equipment had also been removed for security reasons. But the communication areas were being guarded, he said.

Mount Pinatubo erupted when American and Philippine negotiators had almost

completed talks on the future of Clark air base and Subic Bay naval dockyard, the two largest American bases in Asia. A new bases agreement could have been signed this week, but there may now be a revision of the proposed treaty. Both Clark and Subic have been struck with rock and ash from the volcano.

The lease on the bases expires in September. Clark and Subic play an important role in guarding trade routes across the Indian and Pacific oceans.

Although the United States insisted during negotiations that it wanted both bases for another ten years, Clark was already being run down as part of defence cutbacks in the wake of the end of the Cold War. The two squadrons of Phantoms are not being replaced. The last three of the 48 flew out this month. It is possible that, because of Mount Pinatubo's eruption, Washington may rethink the need for Clark as a strategic base. Alternative landing sites for American planes could be found at bases in Japan, Guam and the United States itself.

"Until the danger is gone, I don't think we will be doing any operations in Clark air base," Nicholas Platt, the American ambassador to the Philippines, said.

## Scientists hope 'big bang' will end Pinatubo danger

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

PHILIPPINE volcanologists were hopeful yesterday that Mount Pinatubo might have shot its bolt after a series of massive eruptions on Saturday. The worst they had feared, an explosion in which the entire top of the volcano blew itself apart, now seems less likely.

The director of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology, Raymundo Punonbayan, said the weekend eruptions which sent clouds of ash more than 15 miles into the atmosphere had been the "big bang" for which everyone had been waiting.

"In fact, this was the biggest eruption we have experienced in recorded history," he said. The nature of the eruption, however, was less damaging than it might have been because its energy appears to have been directed upwards

and it did not produce the big mud slides or rapid flows of hot ash and molten rock that might have devastated towns on the mountain's northwest flank.

This seemed a serious danger on Saturday after a two-mile long fissure appeared on the side of the mountain. The giant eruptions did not, however, split the mountain in two, but created what Dr Punonbayan called a "caldera type" collapse.

Calderas are formed when the cone of a volcano is destroyed or the rim collapses inwards. The result is to lower the height of the cone but increase its circumference. Combined with the ejection of large amounts of material, this has the effect of reducing the pressure. Since its big eruptions, Pinatubo appears to have settled down. Whether a

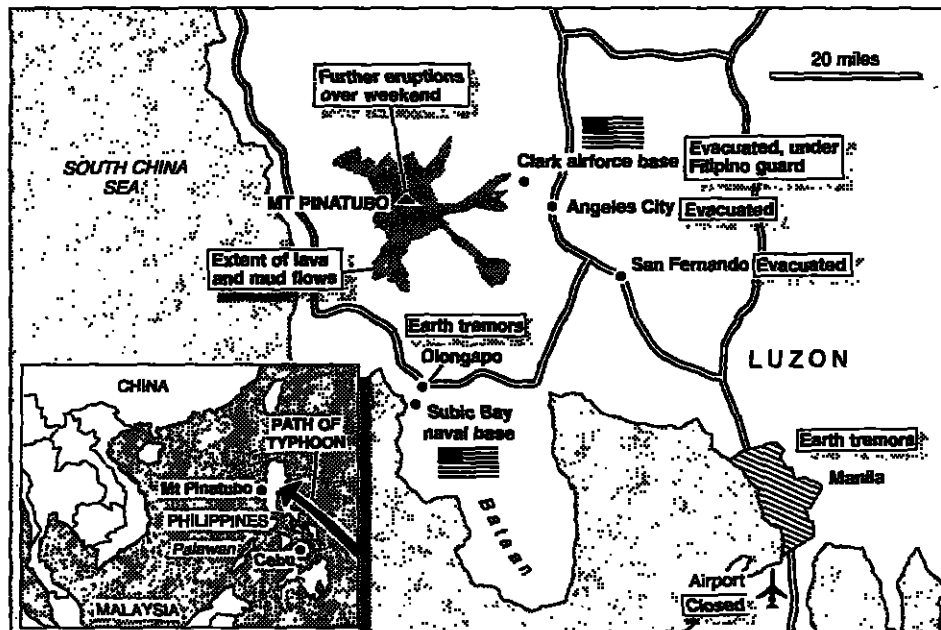
caldera has formed will not be known until an aerial inspection is made.

The fact that debris was injected high into the atmosphere means that Pinatubo may affect the weather, both regionally and globally, in the next few months. The fine dust and ash will take up to a year to settle. If there is enough of it at high levels it may affect the amount of sunlight reaching earth. After the explosive eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia in 1815, Europe endured the "year without a summer".

Yesterday there were reports of ash clouds 15 to 18 miles high, and of fallout of ash 375 miles away. A satellite photograph showed the ash cloud stretching as far as Cambodia.

● Sponsored climb: A Dorset adventurer plans a sponsored climb of 100 active volcanoes in Indonesia to raise money for charity. It will be, he says, a calculated risk (Alan Hamilton writes).

Douglas Warner, aged 24, of Shaftesbury, hopes to begin his expedition next September. He believes it will take a year to climb all of them. He will be accompanied by two other experienced volcano scramblers, a 36-year-old Indonesian mountaineer and a 26-year-old woman science teacher from London.



## Peking cautioned on arms

Washington — Reginald Bartholomew, the US under-secretary for international security affairs, arrived in Peking yesterday to warn the Chinese leadership that ballistic missile sales to Pakistan or Syria would gravely damage Sino-American relations and make it all the more likely that Congress will end China's preferential trading status (Martin Fletcher writes).

James Baker, the Secretary of State, told a congressional committee last week that the missile sales would constitute a "grave threat" to the stability of the Middle East and Indian sub-continent. Peking is reportedly preparing to sell Syria missiles capable of threatening Israel. Mr Baker said Washington had warned Peking against selling missiles to Pakistan, which is in dispute with India over Kashmir.

## Premier resigns

Ankara — Yildirim Akbulut, the Turkish prime minister, has resigned after the ruling Motherland party's national congress rejected him as party leader. The party's action indicates its concern over its survival in the general election next year. Mesut Yilmaz, a former foreign minister, is to take over the post.

## Floods in China

Peking — Floods in China triggered by violent rainstorms have killed 270 people and injured 4,700 so far this year, the official China Daily said. The annual flood season, which began in mid-May, has affected 34.3 million people in eight provinces in central China along the Yangtze and Huaihe rivers. (Reuters)

## Cool response for rally to mark Soweto uprising

FROM RAY KENNEDY AND GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

IT MAY have been due partly to the icy midwinter cold that has much of South Africa in its grip, but the marches and rallies to mark the 15th anniversary of the Soweto uprising at the weekend attracted only modest support.

The national demonstrations for "peace, freedom and jobs for all" organised by the African National Congress in alliance with the South African Communist party and the Council of South African Trade Unions, reached their climax yesterday when Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president, addressed a rally at Soccer City, a 75,000-seat stadium on the outskirts of Soweto. It was supposed to start at about 10am, but by then only a couple of thousand of the most hardy and loyal had turned up. Four hours later, when 30,000 people had gathered, Mr Mandela arrived at the less than half full stadium with his wife, Winnie, and Walter Sisulu, the ANC internal leader.

The weekend's marches and rallies were to recall the outbreak of a national black revolt that erupted in Soweto, the huge township outside Johannesburg, on June 16, 1976, over the enforced teaching of school subjects in Afrikaans. It was put down ruthlessly by police and in the following 12 months more than 600 people were killed, most by police bullets.

The ANC has seen the June 16 commemorations as an opportunity to try to muster grassroots support, ahead of its crucial national congress



Township grief relations and Black Consciousness supporters gathered at the grave of Hector Pieterse, who was killed by police in 1976

next month, for what many blacks increasingly see as its lacklustre performance in getting firm action from the government on the real issues — jobs, housing, education and medical care. Yesterday, Mr Mandela told the crowd that the ANC would take to the streets to press its demands for a transitional government to lead the country to non-racial democracy. "There can be no compromise on that," he said.

But behind the facade of mass public support, the ANC is a fractious organisation aware that it has lost the initiative to Pretoria, and bracing itself for a bruising leadership struggle.

An internal discussion paper prepared for the national congress in Durban, the first to be held in South Africa for more than three decades, admits: "Our movement has not been fast enough in establishing its organisational machinery and adapting to the new terrain of struggle."

## ADDIS NOTEBOOK by Andrew Lycett

## Pluralism still pie in the sky

Despite the new Ethiopian government's promises of democracy, political pluralism has yet to be implemented. One organisation, the Committee for Peace and Reconciliation in Ethiopia, composed largely of academics, has been refused permission to hold a meeting at Addis Ababa university.

The group grew out of the Committee of 11 which in April courted trouble by issuing the first public call for Ethiopia's then leader, Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, to step down. Two weeks ago it published a statement deploring the "ill-advised" decision of Herman Cohen, the American Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, to allow the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front to move into Addis Ababa.

Solomon Terfa, one of the committee's members and head of the political science department at the university, said: "We are very discouraged. The interim government may talk of democracy, but when you ask for it they are not willing to give it."

Searching for comparisons, it is as if the Crown Jewels had been found in a Florida car boot sale. An important Ethiopian icon looted by British soldiers at the battle of Magdala in 1868, has

been discovered in a private Portuguese collection. The discovery comes after a dozen years of patient research by a British scholar, Richard Pankhurst, who works at Addis Ababa university. The icon, which depicts Christ with a crown of thorns, was one of two objects always carried with the emperors on campaigns. The other was the Tabot, a representation of the Ark of the Covenant.

The battle of Magdala was the culmination of an expensive expedition to avenge the taking of a British envoy hostage. After the Ethiopians were defeated, spoils of the court were lifted. They were subsequently collected by British officers who held a two-day private sale among themselves. Four years later the Emperor Johannes wrote to Queen Victoria requesting the return of two objects which were especially cherished by the Ethiopian people.

One was the icon, the other a manuscript known as the Kebra Negash, which related the story of the Queen of Sheba visiting King Solomon. The manuscript was duly returned — believed to be the only instance of the British Library giving back something from its collection. But Queen Victoria wrote back to the Emperor regretting that the icon could not be found.

## Kuwait sentences three more to die

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

KUWAIT'S martial law court yesterday sentenced another three people to death, bringing to 12 the number of alleged collaborators now facing execution by hanging as the government continues to ignore increasing Western criticism of its conduct. No details about the three men sentenced to death in absentia were given, other than their names.

At the same time Western sources say there is discontent in the emirate's 20,000-strong armed forces. A small but growing group of soldiers is agitating for reform, and about 600 disgruntled army officers have been prevented by the ruling al-Sabah family from rejoining the military because they are seen as a threat to discipline.

Western officials have also reported that hundreds of non-Kuwaitis rounded up in security sweeps are now being deported. Apart from petty crime, the main offence of those arrested is of allegedly holding the wrong documents or of being related to one of the more than 400 people, mainly Palestinians or Iraqis, facing charges of collaboration in a series of trials which began a month ago.

Among those facing execution as a result of the trials, roundly condemned by Amnesty International, are two women. One of them, Ibtisam al-Dukheil, a Kuwaiti, told the court on Saturday that she joined the pro-Iraqi paper, *al-Nida* (The Call), only because the Iraqis threatened to rape her daughter.

There was pandemonium as Mrs al-Dukheil and five other workers on the paper were

sentenced to death and ten more were sent to jail for ten years each. Soldiers jabbed their American-made assault rifles through the bars of a courtroom cage to contain the uproar.

Judge Mohammed Jassem Binaji said that the convicted collaborators "wanted to sap the mental spirit of Kuwaitis and to scare the people and intended to harm the Kuwaiti nation, and they were happy to do this". *Al-Nida* was a propaganda sheet which carried a daily picture of President Saddam Hussein and devoted much space to lambasting Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir, and his family. Defence lawyers had said that the insults against the ruling family would make it hard for the judge to show leniency despite the harm being done to Kuwait's international image.

● Dahuk: Thousands of Kurds marched through the streets of this northern Iraqi city yesterday to protest at the withdrawal of allied troops. They marched to the headquarters of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, base for a small force of UN guards.

The Kurds say the guards are not adequate to protect them from any infiltration by the feared Iraqi secret police. They are demanding that Washington resume its military presence.

The last 150 American soldiers left their base in Dahuk on Saturday. The UN, crippled by lack of funds, has so far been able to hire only 37 of the 500 guards it hoped to deploy in the city. (Reuters)



## Mixed fortunes of Congress cloud Indian poll result

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

AFTER independent India's longest and bloodiest general election campaign, the Congress (I) party was emerging last night as the single biggest group in the Lok Sabha (lower house). It was performing strongly in much of the south but was being mauled in the important northern state of Uttar Pradesh, where Hindu revivalists were making a big impact.

Early trends left unclear whether Congress could win outright. If the party falls short of a clear majority, it will in the next few days begin intense bargaining with other parties and factions to try to form a coalition government. The sympathy vote for Congress after the assassination last month of Rajiv Gandhi, its leader, was patchy. Sympathy was a decisive factor in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, where Gandhi was killed in a bomb explosion, and Congress and its allies virtually swept the board.

In the two key states of the northern Hindi heartland, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, Congress was being crushed. The north, once its bastion, is now dominated by the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which advocates a strident Hindu nationalism, and the left-of-centre Janata Dal, headed by Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who was prime minister until his coalition collapsed seven months ago. Mr Singh was performing strongly in Bihar last night, where he has succeeded in pulling together Muslims and backward-caste Hindus on a platform of social justice for the underprivileged.

But the trend was entirely different in Uttar Pradesh, which sends 86 MPs to the 544-member Lok Sabha and is the most populous state, with 110 million people. The BJP appeared to be leading in a large number of constituencies. Its nationalism and free market economic policies appeal to many high-castes. The party was, however, doing badly in states where it controls the local assembly, Raja-

sthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. The main beneficiary was Congress. Elsewhere, the Communists were defying international trends. They were entrenching their control of West Bengal, where the old socialist rhetoric remains a vote-catcher. But in the south-west state of Kerala, where Communists have been in and out of power over the years, Congress was performing strongly and Communists were taking a severe beating.

State and national leaders of Congress are to meet in Delhi early this week to assess the outcome and decide on the question of finding a parliamentary leader who, if the party can form a government, will become prime minister. Parliament is meant to assemble on Thursday. It has not yet been decided whether Congress's new leader will be chosen by consensus or by secret ballot. P.V. Narasimha Rao, recently chosen as party president, is emerging as a possible consensus choice for parliamentary leader. The coterie that surrounded Gandhi favours him. But Sharad Pawar, the chief minister of Maharashtra, of which Bombay is the capital, is also a strong contender. He has been studying English and Hindi, neither of which he could speak until a few years ago. Without speaking them, he could not realistically become prime minister.

If Congress falls short of outright victory, it will have several options. It could try to coax the Communists into its camp, which would probably not succeed, given Congress's new commitment to privatisation. It could seek to do a deal with the Janata Dal as a whole or at least with a substantial faction of it. This, too, is a remote possibility, since the law bans defections unless at least a third of a party's MPs are involved. If Congress is close to a majority, it might squeeze by with support from small regional parties and independents.

Congress officials have made clear that, if the party

does come to power, it will seek to cancel elections due next Saturday in Punjab, where 126 Hindus were shot dead in attacks on two trains near the city of Ludhiana on Saturday night.

Even by the violent standards of Punjab, this was an exceptional atrocity, designed to force the cancellation of voting. Gunmen boarded the trains, which were waiting at stations, and separated Hindus from Sikhs. The Hindus were then shot down. The incidents were within an hour of each other.

Punjab is to elect 13 MPs as well as its state assembly. Its elections were separated from those in the rest of the country to enable an additional security operation to be set up once security forces were free from election duty elsewhere.

Sikh extremists believe that the poll will legitimise Punjab's status as part of the Indian union. But there are complex legal questions about cancelling an election that is already under way which constitutional lawyers are examining.

Sikh terrorist groups are divided about the election. Some are taking part, using front organisations. More than 20 assembly candidates have been killed, and many are choosing to live in prisons and police stations for security. Campaigning is all but impossible because of the violence. Congress is boycotting the poll.



Widow's grief: a woman being consoled in the Punjab village of Baddowal yesterday after her husband and 125 other Hindus were shot dead by Sikh extremists in a raid on two passenger trains near the city of Ludhiana

## Six die in Dhaka campus gunfight

Dhaka — A gun battle on a college campus in Dhaka left six students dead and 70 seriously wounded yesterday, sources said (Ahmed Fazi writes).

They said supporters of the pro-government Jatiyotabadi Chhatra Dal opened fire on the opposition Bangladesh Chhatra League on the Jagannath college campus in old Dhaka. Three students were killed in the battle while three others died later in hospital. Tension mounted as the authorities closed all schools and colleges and the shooting broke out in a dispute over the allotment of student rooms.

### Tamils flee

Colombo — Thousands of Tamil villagers are hiding in the Sri Lankan jungle after the alleged killing by troops last week of up to 150 members of the minority community, an opposition member of parliament said. (Reuters)

### Briton fined

Kuala Lumpur — Nicholas Peach of Birmingham was fined 1,200 ringgit (£270) for slapping a boy and fighting with police after last week's soccer match between England and Malaysia. (AP)

### Leadership bid

Algiers — Algeria's first post-independence head of state, Ahmed Ben Bella, aged 73, who returned from exile nine months ago, said that he would stand as a presidential candidate when elections were held. (Reuters)

## Falashas get caught up in Israeli debate

Political and religious divisions in Israel have clouded the welcome for Ethiopian Jews and damaged efforts to help them, Richard Beeston reports from Jerusalem

THE footage of Ethiopian Jews being airlifted to their new home in Israel stirred the Zionist sentiments in every Israeli. But, as all the Falashas will by now have appreciated, life in the Jewish state is seldom as harmonious as it seemed during their airlift.

For hundreds of Ethiopians trying to acclimatise to modern society, the transition is particularly bewildering since they have unwittingly found themselves at the centre of a debate which runs to the core of the deep divisions between left and right, secular and orthodox and Ashkenazi (European) and Sephardi (Oriental) Jews.

The man seen as bursting the bubble of enthusiasm is Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, the minister of absorption, who is in charge of housing, training and re-educating the 14,500 new arrivals.

The rabbi is a member of the ultra-orthodox Shas party, a junior coalition

of right-wing and religious parties.

"Jails are today filled with Sephardi youth because the kibbutzim forced them to give up Judaism," he charged, pointing accusingly at Muki Tzur, the head of the kibbutz movement. "The kibbutzim uprooted them from Torah and commandments, and left them without a Jewish soul, leaving them as dried bones... This mistake cannot be repeated, and we will do everything to prevent this with Ethiopian immigrants."

The interests of the Ethiopians in question, who had been in the country only two weeks before falling victim to the political tug of war, have quickly been forgotten in the ensuing political row. While most of the Falashas have received a warm and friendly welcome, some Israelis have greeted their arrival with ill-disguised contempt, not least the newly arrived Soviet Jews.

At absorption centres and modern development towns stories have been filtering through of open hostility and racism from the Soviet immigrants, who regard the Ethiopians as an additional and unnecessary strain on the meagre state absorption resources and on the job and housing markets.

But not all the Ethiopians' problems can be blamed on their new countrymen. Israel radio's Amharic service this week appealed to Falasha fathers to refrain from performing the ritual circumcision of their sons. Although the Bible says that fathers should perform the ceremony, Israel's usually hire trained *mohel* to perform the operation. The appeal was made after a Falasha father used a razor to circumcise his one-month-old baby. The child began bleeding profusely and later died.



Peretz: accusing finger pointed at kibbutzim

partner in government which represents the interests of religious Sephardi Jews. He was asked how he felt about the placing of a 400 Falashas on kibbutz farms, traditional bastions of secular, liberal and Ashkenazi Jewry, and particularly hostile to the ideology of the government coalition

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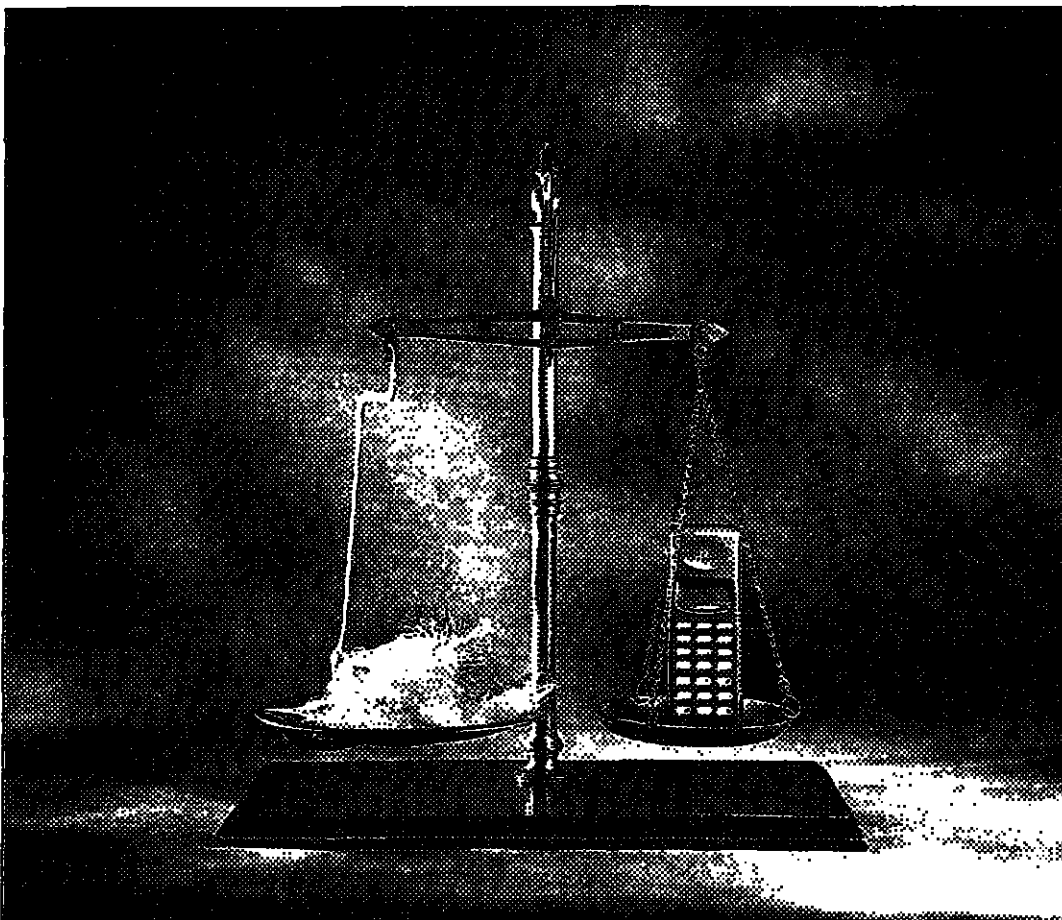
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Would tax relief on home extension improve our record on care of the elderly? Dinah Hall reports

# Losing a flat, gaining a granny

As a nation we are used to describing ourselves — with more complacency than guilt — as particularly uncaring of our elderly. Britain's famous "good old days" when families stuck together were, according to Wendy Greengross, the director of Age Concern, shaped more by poverty than by some superior emotional bond. So it is interesting to explore the idea put recently to Tony Newton, the social security secretary, that financial incentives in the shape of tax relief for those building "granny flats" might glue families back together.

The notion that tax relief on granny flats would ease the taxpayers' burden (currently £1.6 billion in income support) is dubious. Those families who have the space, and the funds, to extend or convert their houses are unlikely to be the ones with parents on income support. And the idea of tax relief on something which is going to increase the value of your property, with free babysitting thrown in, sounds like a potential paradise of loopholes for the creative accountant.

Jill Pitkeathly, the director of the Carers' National Association, has a less cynical view, pointing out that there are six million people caring for elderly relatives in this country, "and we are constantly amazed how much people will do because I love her" or "it's my duty".

Both she and Ms Greengross believe the idea of a financial incentive for taking elderly relatives into the home, while allowing independence on both sides, is good in principle. Ms Greengross stresses, though, that people need to work out a code of practice and consider all the possibilities. "You may be expecting a built-in babysitter and washer-up, but how would you feel if she had a boyfriend?"

Alison Parry, a law librarian and president of the Women of Europe Award, approves the idea of grandparents living independently within the family house, but says it cannot be compared with the extended Mediterranean family. "They don't have the same pressures as we do — having to get two children to school, getting to work yourself, a hundred other things." Her mother-in-law, Luba Parry, has lived on the top floor of the house in Twickenham, west London, they bought three years ago, after Luba's husband died.

Alison stresses that not all grannies are the apple-cheeked, cake-baking type. "My mother-in-law doesn't run around after the children or baby-sit. She's got less grey hair than me, and she looks after herself better. I'm still adjusting to the situation: after all, I married someone who hadn't lived at home for years — it was a close enough bond, but not such as to suggest she would end up living with us."

She is forthright about the stresses of living together — for example, she feels Luba sometimes monopolises time with her son that otherwise he might spend with his children — in her day fathers were not so involved — but she believes that the elderly have an enormous amount to offer. "Ask an Asian child what he would

parent-child relationship has never been resolved it all comes back with a vengeance, and Ms Pitkeathly agrees: "Everything turns on the quality of relationships before."

For the actor Peter Duncan the decision to combine financial forces with his mother after his father died, and buy a house with a basement flat for the whole family, was reached "on an instinctual level". The crucial factor was the excellent relationship between his wife, Annie, and his mother, Pattie Gale. They have even gone into business together, making children's fancy-dress costumes. Mrs Gale, who is 63 "but thinks she's 50", has the basement flat. There is a certain amount of popping up and down and alternating Sunday lunch, but Mr Duncan says: "You have to respect each other's space, whether you are two or 60." He tries not to exploit his mother as an in-house baby-sitting service, although that is a great advantage. "I think the most fascinating thing has been the cycle of birth and death. All our children have been born at home, and for the third my mother was able to watch. I think it resolved her feelings about my birth, which wasn't so good."

Mrs Gale's earlier life in the theatre, with constant touring, has perhaps made her more flexible than is typical of her generation, but the private space is also crucial. "Before the flat was ready, and I was living in the house with them, I did wonder whether I would be in the way."

Sharing your home with a sprightly 60-year-old is one thing, but what happens when she or he becomes infirm? "Just as I believe in birth and death at home, so I believe in disability at home," Mr Duncan says. "But of course if it came to caring on a daily basis, then there should be an outside network of support." That — not tax relief — is the key issue as far as the care organisations are concerned. Indeed Michael Willmott, of the Henley Centre for Forecasting, believes there will be further moves towards state or private residential care as the traditional carers, women, are now needed in the workforce.

"And I'm afraid I have to be rather cynical about the caring, sharing Nineties," he says. "When we were researching the subject we were shocked just how open people were about not wanting to care for their parents in their own homes."

*'You may be expecting a built-in babysitter and washer-up, but how would you feel if she had a boyfriend?'*

take to a desert island and he would say his family. Ask an English child and he will say his computer."

Luba says the arrangement gives her the freedom to spend six months of the year travelling, but also suited her son and daughter-in-law's wish to move out of inner London. Her own "little quarters" are "just gorgeous", and it suits her to have Alison's help with her housework. She is wary of getting in the way — "we meet when we can, but they are young people and tremendously busy". As far as baby-sitting goes she wishes they would call on her "more often. I'm always glad to step in if the au pair is not there."

The Parry family did not enter any contractual agreement. "It's a friendly family arrangement," Luba says, "and we have got by on trial and error." But the care organisations recommend a formal agreement, particularly as most so-called granny flats are self-contained within the house rather than separate extensions, and there is bound to be emotional stress. Ms Greengross points out that if the



Generation game: Pattie Gale, with her son and his family upstairs

## Absurd side of the wall

The battle of Cutteslowe raged over one of Britain's strangest class barriers

Satirists in search of a theme would do well to listen this week to a modest Radio 4 documentary entitled *The Battle of Cutteslowe*. It is the story of how a 10ft wall was built straight across the middle of two suburban roads in Oxford to prevent council tenants walking past middle-class housing; and how that wall endured, with revolving spikes on top, for 25 years.

The story begins in the Thirties, when Oxford's population trebled as the unemployed flooded in to William Morris's new car factory. Oxford Corporation bought a farm to build council houses, and sold off the surplus to a private developer, Clive Saxton. Fearing he would not get private tenants with such neighbours, Saxton built a 10ft high wall right across Carlton and Wentworth roads, where they became the less-classy Wolsey and Aldrich roads.

Enter Abe Lazarus, a local strike leader. Advised (wrongly) by the barrister Sir Stafford Cripps that the walls were illegal, he assembled 2,000 marchers armed with sledgehammers, a Communist panto troupe and bagpipes. The police formed a cordon in front of the threatened strip of private property and the squalid cottages contented themselves with a fiery speech from Mr Lazarus perched up in a tree.

There were more speeches to come. Labour councillor R.W.M. "Bulldog" Gibbs trumpeted: "If you go to the far end of the Mediterranean you will find greasy individuals doing this sort of thing. But I never thought that in Christian England in the 20th century..." The council sent workmen to knock the wall down. Saxton's men simultaneously built it up again.

Five years later a tank on manoeuvres knocked the wall down. Nobody is quite sure why: favourite theories are either that the driver assumed that it was a dummy for him

to knock down or else that the locals egged him on in the pub. The War Office apologised to the owner and punctiliously built it up again, and it was 1959 before Councillor Edmund Gibbs, son of "Bulldog", stood on a ladder and swung the first pickaxe. (Being an accountant, he missed and inadvertently hurled the pick over the wall.) Even after demolition, bits of the wall, complete with spikes, remained defiantly standing in private gardens until the 1980s.

But what was life like on either side of the Class Wall? Awkward for workmen and postmen, who remember nipping over ladders to save the long walk. But the residents' voices are mild and tolerant. "The wall made it very safe to

His LORDSHIP. —Someone said that the walls had been secretly put up.  
MR. SIMES. —No, pulled down at night.  
SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS. —It would be a very difficult thing to pull down a wall secretly in Oxford.  
MR. SIMES. —A steam-roller was driven over them.  
The Times, June 18 1938

play," mused one former council estate child. On the other side, householders are more prim. "Well," murmured one lady, "those children... I mean, the people that bought our house later, when the wall was down, had to have the two apple trees cut down because every single apple was stolen."

But the real pathos lies in the desperate clinging to distinction by the private side. There was a condition in their leases that nobody should leave the houses wearing overalls, or pack a trade van in the road. "One man was a painter and decorator," recalls a resident. "So every morning he went off with his overalls hidden in an attache case."

Why did Ealing Studios never get round to making a film about it all?

LIBBY PURVES

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● The Battle of Cutteslowe is on Radio 4 on Wednesday at 11pm

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## Crowning exhibit

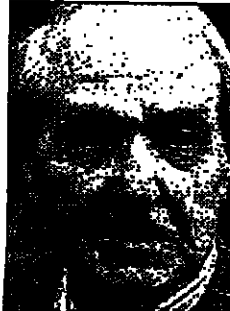
A LARGE exhibition at the Victoria and Albert museum will be a focal point of next year's fortieth anniversary celebrations of the Queen's accession. The Royal College of Art has been commissioned to design and construct "Sovereign", which will run from April to September 1992. A "dazzling array" of decorations and uniforms is promised, as are sections devoted to the Queen's relationship with the Commonwealth and the media, to showing how the "Royal Family firm" is run, and to surveying the Queen's changing fashions.

### Music re-stored

ONE of London's best-known musical landmarks is back on the map. The Regent Street shop of the music publishers Boosey and Hawkes, destroyed by fire last October, has been rebuilt as it was - even to the extent of restoring Anna Zinkeisen's celebrated 1935 art deco interiors. What could not be replaced were the six original Zinkeisen murals; however a competition is being held among London art students to provide new murals.

### Moore travels

NO SCULPTOR this century had more international exposure than the late Henry Moore, yet his work remains little known in the Soviet Union. Now, however, the British Council is mounting an exhibition of his sculpture and drawings in Leningrad and Moscow this summer.



Moore's work to be exhibited in USSR

### Last chance...

THIS week, English National Opera concludes its bold season of 20th century opera and Mozart at the Coliseum (071-836 3161) in storming style. A searingly passionate production of Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth* is tonight, Thursday and Saturday; Tim Albery's startlingly revisionist production of Britten's *Peter Grimes* is on tomorrow, and Stephen Oliver's new opera, *Timon of Athens*, is on Wednesday.

## EXHIBITION

# Drawn from a classical model

The artist's model, once as invaluable as a palette, has become a forgotten asset, says Joseph Williams

Her face is tormented, her hair flows, her body turns in a pose that drives her painter to ecstasy. Actually, she's thinking about her breakfast. And her face is tormented because of a raging itch in her foot. Still, modelling is not a bad job, apart from the cramps, goose pimples and modest pay. Being a single mum, she needs every penny, and she does a good line in dreamy madonna types.

She never tells her friends. Well, they might laugh. An artist's model isn't that what disreputable women used to do? Posing nude - what would the neighbours say?

In fact, she is as indispensable to some painters as their palettes. Her forbears inspired great paintings, driving artists to despair, then pulling them back from the brink. They were lovers, tormentors, comforters. Crucially, they beckoned artists back, literally, to the drawing board, to re-examine the bones and musculature.

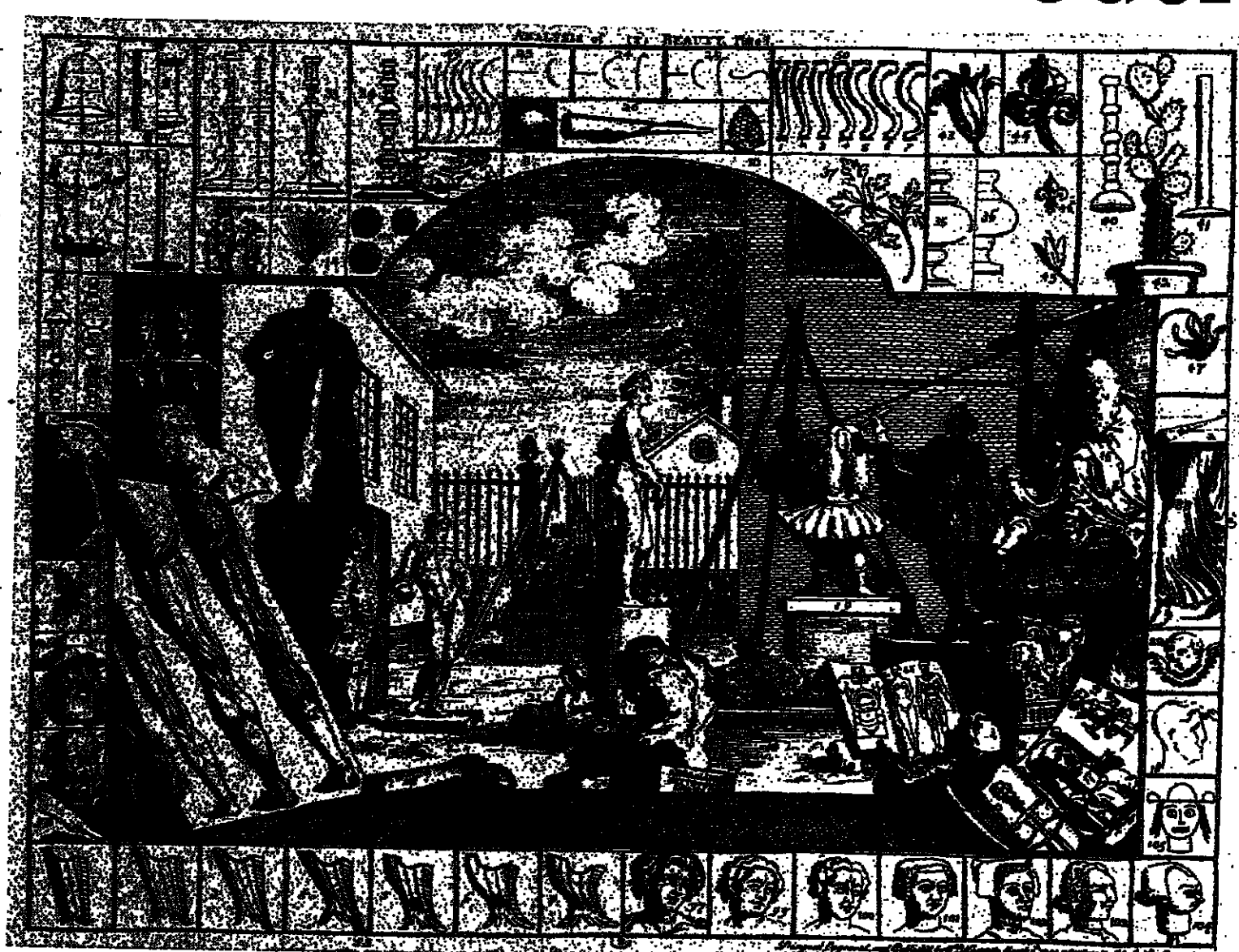
But what is the role of the artist's model today? Do artists still use them? After all, who needs figures on pinheads in an age of blank canvases and conceptualism?

Every artist, even abstract, should be able to draw from life, asserts Martin Postle, organiser of an exhibition at Kenwood House in north London on the artist's model. "Sir Joshua Reynolds spoke of nature not as we understand it, but in terms of the figure. Unfortunately, the life model is becoming redundant."

The Kenwood paintings, concentrating on British artists, reveal an obsessive attention to detail, and an urge to probe the human frame with the dedication of a Dr Frankenstein. Artists such as Louis Chéron almost imparted life to their figures. The great tradition of anatomy, living models and drawing from classical statues inspired the 18th century early Academy classes; the rapid painters studying a male nude in Zoffany's *The Academicians of the Royal Academy* evoke an age of genuine discovery.

The first British life class was given by Sir Godfrey Kneller in 1711. From bone to flesh, from corpse to life, these artists' manuals crawl with diagrams. Here was a striving for absolute scientific accuracy, yet softened into a languishing desire to idealise the human form. One gruesome exhibit at Kenwood is a cast taken from a criminal's corpse, strung up for artists to explore every stretch of skin and tendon. But there is a gracefulness, too, in the soft male nudes by Blake and Etty, and humour in Rolandson's satirical print of an elderly artist leering at his naked model. Hogarth's antique statuary yard is crowded with classical busts and torsos.

Today, however, some leading artists claim that not enough emphasis has been placed on life models in art education. "It's my hobbyhorse," argues the Scottish painter John Bellamy, "that artists



Portrait of an artist's accomplice: Hogarth's engraving *The Analysis of Beauty*, showing the importance of live drawing to the classical artist

need life class before creating anything. I can't think of any great artists without their drawing skills, their grammar and syntax. Otherwise, you're like a composer without his scales."

Bellamy believes that the model is not some anonymous lump of flesh, smiling sweetly on a dais with a flower in her mouth: "I want to portray my sinner because there's something in the character I must capture. Once you've gathered information about the person, the results are poignant."

The sheer intensity of artist-model relationships, often non-sexual but passionate and draining nonetheless, is something that Peter Blake, the British artist, finds too overwhelming to enjoy nowadays. "Nevertheless," he says, "like Hockney and Kitaj, I think it's the only way to begin."

Blake recalls the post-war days when models were models - true professionals who could stand on one leg for hours and take as much pride in the work as artists: "Italian families came here to model, even the grandfathers, posing with his stick. At the Royal College, there were 20 models in different poses."

Great models inspire great artists by force of character. Quentin Crisp was Blake's first model, when Crisp was a young eccentric and Blake a starchy-eyed 14-year-old. Other artist-model relationships are so deep that they remain secret. One famous artist questioned was as reluctant to talk about the subject as if I had

asked about his lover, not his sinner. The artistic relationship, bordering on the sensual, can produce dynamite. Goya's model was a *femme fatale* he adored and despised, but could not let go. So besotted was Raphael with his Fornarina that he wrote her love poems, neglecting his work. Titian

turned to his friends when he needed a sinner because there were no life classes available at the time he was studying. Today, however, the Slade School, particularly strong in life study, employs four models daily. The Royal Academy School even boasts a professor of anatomy. "The principles of life drawing remain unchanged," argues Roger de Grey, president of the Royal Academy. "Students often come from colleges having had no opportunity or desire to study from life."

Yet finding inspiring models is not easy. Gone are the 19th century Parisian markets, where abstinence-soaked viragos were prodded and assessed like cattle by painters. Male models were often boxers or gin-swilling matelots: ideal for character painting. Today's equivalent is probably a body-builder smeared in Vaseline, wonderfully narcissistic but useless for aspiring Hogarths. Few models today could ever have the clout of Lilly Langtree, one of the most beautiful sitters of the Victorian age.

Cooling relationships between artists and models will only make art suffer. Not many women these days would stand in a metal tub of freezing water, hitching up their skirts, as did Rembrandt's model for his *A Woman Bathing*. Or are

there simply no Rembrandts to paint them?

The two halves of the relationship are indissolubly linked. Suffering models feed off the artist's intensity, and vice versa. Ultimately, though, the model is the loser, forgotten by history. Titian's sinner was struck by plague, her features became hideous and she was discarded by the artist.

Art historian Susan Warlow, who used to model regularly at Chelsea School of Art, became "very bored holding the same pose for an hour. Posing nude does feel strange at first, but it's definitely not glamorous. Some students even look down on me. Anyone models, it's a way of earning money when you're young, not something you want to do again."

The fact is that artists need subjects. A snag of Post-Modernism is that models are written off as irrelevant, like a novel without characters. The best abstract art is inspired by real life; its finest exponents can draw from life. They may end up with no subject, but they certainly start with one.

The *écroulés* at the Kenwood exhibition show anatomy to be the point of reference for every artist, as Michelangelo, Pollaiuolo and Stubbs well knew. For art's sake, let us put the models back on their pedestals.

● The Artist's Model opens on Wednesday at Kenwood House, London NW3 (081-348 1286). 10am-5.30pm daily, until August 31.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

*I can't think of any great artists without drawing skills: their grammar and syntax*

## RECORDS: CLASSICAL

# Opera eager to be heard

Mozart: Idomeneo. Soloists, Monteverdi Choir, EBS/Gardner, DG Archiv 431 674-2 three CDs  
Mozart: Lucio Silla. Monteverdi Choir, EBS/Gardner, DG Archiv 431 674-2 three CDs

THE tide in Mozart performance, on record as at Glyndebourne, seems to be running unstoppably in the direction of period ensembles: the new Idomeneo conducted by John Eliot Gardiner arrives as a triumphant confirmation. It is vividly alive in tone, texture and rhythm. Maybe the rhythmic incisiveness becomes a touch too relentless, but there is so much to enjoy that quibbles are silenced.

The orchestra opens a whole world of natural, vegetal sound, and there is a similar freshness to the choral singing: the piano continuo, too, is lively. Then there are the soloists. Sylvia McNair is marvellous as Ilia, completely in control of line, exquisite in sound. Anne Sofie von Otter is quite on a level with her as Idamante, with Hillevi Martinpelto only marginally behind as Elettra. Anthony Rolfe Johnson's tormented lyricism suits the title role, though he seems a little aside from the main musical action. This is a performance eager to be heard.

MOZART'S immediately preceding serious opera, Lucio Silla, is one that 1991 may well bring into the regular repertoire. Written when he was aged 16, it contains marvellous things, especially for Cecilia and Glumia, who are out of favour with the Roman dictator who gives the piece its title. The work already shows Mozart linking numbers into continuous, orchestral accompaniment musical drama: the celebrated last scene of the first act is almost as long as one of the great opera buffa finales.

The Belgian recording is of a production, by Patrice Chéreau, that went around Europe a few years ago, and one happily pays the penalties - a stage noise, the cutting of two arias, and the omission too of swatches of recitative - for the sake of the immediacy in the singing. Ann Murray occasionally bumps uncomfortably against the bottom of her voice in the castrato role of Cecilio, but this is a thrilling performance. Lella Cuberli is nobly beautiful as Glumia, and Brit-Marie Aruhn complements Murray in bringing a more melting quality to the part of Cecilio's friend Cinna, a part written for a female soprano. Christine Barbaux is the delightful Celia, Anthony Rolfe Johnson the conscience-ridden ruler. Sylvain Cambreling sets good speeds, though the orchestral playing, by a modern band, is nothing special.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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## PIANO COMPETITION

# Gladiators of the keyboard arena

PIANO competitions are getting more like beauty contests. To steal a march over its rivals, invariably labelled "International", London's new competition, which started two weeks ago at the South Bank and reaches its climax with tomorrow's final, bears an adjective "World" as part of its title. How long before the winner of another event is declared Mr or Ms Universe of the piano?

The idea that such competitions are regarded as essential is absurd. But there is no denying that the prize money - £10,000 - and the secured engagements it brings will be extremely useful to the winner of the National Power World Piano Competition.

Yakov Kasman, of the Soviet Union, summed up the pressures of the event with his reaction to the news that he was to be one of the four finalists. He had worked up such anxiety over the competition that he collapsed. One sympathised with him, and at the same time felt anger at a system which seeks to oblige a pianist to win an important prize before he or she can forge a successful career.

Juries are notoriously fallible, and this one was no exception, as the exclusion from the final of the 23-year-old French pianist, Jean-François Dichamp, demonstrated. A finalist in Santander last year, Dichamp is a sensitive artist who gave an accomplished recital at the semi-final Stage 3. He balanced his programme with care and in his elegantly shaped and shaded performances allowed the music - Schumann's *Faschingschwank aus Wien*, Op. 26, Chopin's *G minor Ballade*, de Falla's *Fantasia bética* and Ravel's

"Scarbo" - to communicate by spurring airs and graces. Choices of music, as usual, erred on the side of the predictable. It should be compulsory for pianists to play something substantial written in the past few decades. Many players aimed to make their mark with Liszt's B minor Sonata, but few possessed the stamina to get through it unscathed. Masatoshi Matsumoto, of Japan, provided the most convincing account but failed to make the final. Britain's Leon McCawley, still a raw 17, played the sonata with swash-buckling confidence but without much understanding. Olivier Cazal of France, who at 29 is old enough to know better, gave it, and the rest of his Stage 3 programme, the garish approach. Maxim Philippov, 19, avoided the work, but his programme, which began with Schumann's *Fantasietücke* and included, like many, Ravel's "Alborado del gracioso", was again all dazzling colour and little subtlety.

KASMAN, 24, will be joined in the final by a 23-year-old Italian, Fabio Bidini, by a Japanese pianist, Chiharu Sekai, 29, whose Ravel in Stage 3 was a superb exhibition of control of tone-colour; and by Britain's Andrew Wilde, 26, whose confidence and enterprise were revealed in a Stage 3 recital in which he played pieces by Alan Rawsthorne and Ronald Stevenson, and gave a barnstorming account of Prokofiev's Seventh Sonata.

STEPHEN PETTIT

● The National Power World Piano Competition final is tomorrow, 7pm, at the Festival Hall, London SE1 (071-928 8800).

## ARTS FUNDING

# Administering sound advice

American arts administration has tended to be insular in outlook. To Europeans, perhaps horrified by the recent outcry over allegedly obscene arts in the United States, such an isolationist policy across the Atlantic might seem the best policy for both sides.

But tomorrow in Los Angeles, the annual congress of the International Society of Performing Arts Administrators, founded 40 years ago for music impresarios in the United States, will be presided over for the first time by a foreigner, Richard Pulford. Pulford is administrative director of the South Bank, and his election as president signals the ISPPA's global ambitions.

US fund-raisers have much to teach British arts organisations, reports Simon Tait

Since it began to look beyond its own borders in 1986, the ISPPA has recruited members from about 30 other countries, including Britain, Japan, the Soviet Union and Australia. The theme of its three-day congress is international, multi-cultural arts. "There is no more multi-cultural society than Los Angeles, which has the largest population of Thai, Indo-

nesians, Japanese and a dozen other cultures outside their own countries," says Pulford. But according to the South Bank's administrative director, the ISPPA also has a thing or two to teach Europeans.

Britain, in particular, has much to learn about general fund-raising, as opposed to business sponsorship and public subsidy (on which our arts rely and America's never have). Companies such as English National Opera have made in-roads with fund-raising schemes such as the ones which appeal directly to audiences from the stage. But in terms of what the Americans do, no British arts organisation can match them.

Pulford says of American opera fund-raising: "They have been at it for years and rely on it. Fund-raising is highly sophisticated. Friends of the Metropolitan Opera have members living in Oklahoma who have never even been to the Met."

Business sponsorship of the arts is a relatively minor source of income in the United States, compared with fund-raising which not only brings in the lion's share of the money but creates life-long loyalties. "They spend a lot of time looking after donors in a way that no British organisation is doing." Here, the South Bank itself is setting up a fund-raising unit within its corporate scheme. The income target for sponsorship and donation is £1 million a year. "We have to be much more assiduous about fund-raising and take a more structured look at it," says Pulford.



Pulford: "US fund-raising is highly sophisticated."

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Opera, Theatre, Rock and Concert

# Educational apartheid?

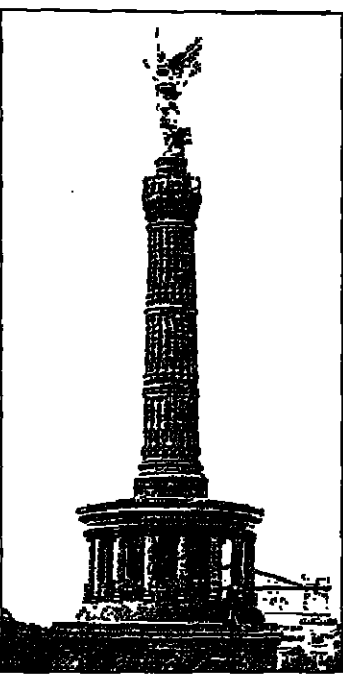


The hopes and strains as wholesale national reform hits the independent schools.  
This week in The TES

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT





The tug of history: Berlin's victory column beckons

## Daniel Johnson on Germany's attempt this week to choose between capitals: Bonn or Berlin

# A tale of two cities for a nation in two minds

Imagine Parliament were meeting in Oxford. Charles I's civil war capital, and that the country had been reunited less than a year ago after two generations of communist rule over southeast England. Westminster and the City of London had belonged to the Soviet satellite, while a wall ran across London from Clapham to Hampstead, isolating an area of freedom bounded in the west by the M25. Should the seat of government revert to London, remain at Oxford, or be divided between the two?

Absurd as this conceit may seem, it approximates the choice that faces the German legislature this Thursday: Bonn, Berlin, or both? The debate has taken place against the apocalyptic background of the digestion alive of East Germany, whose inhabitants are now grappling with an economic slump. Supporters of Berlin argue that suffering easterners

would feel less alienated if their former capital were restored to its old glory. The Bonn camp retorts that a country shouldering the astronomical bill for unification cannot afford the luxury of moving its capital.

The old university town of Bonn is twinned with Oxford. They still have a good deal in common, despite the sprawling offices and public buildings of Bonn's *Regierungsviertel*, the governmental quarter. The legend that Konrad Adenauer selected Bonn because it was close to his home is probably apocryphal. The willingness of the British occupiers

of Bonn to evacuate their troops, and the presence of the American military headquarters in Frankfurt, which had a much greater claim as the cradle of German democracy, were more decisive. Businessmen were less bothered about association with the allies. So Frankfurt became the future federal republic's commercial centre, and Bonn its "provisional" capital.

That provisional quality was always one of Bonn's charms. Many burghers and professors prided themselves on their indifference to the politicians and civil servants. Now they have changed

their tune: the prospect of the capital moving has sent property prices plummeting. "How much would we have to give them to rebuild that Wall?" one old woman asked me when I returned to stay in Menziesberg, a hamlet so rural that one could forget one was 15 minutes from the centre of the German capital. Even in Bonn the atmosphere is not metropolitan. One could pop into the bakery next door for breakfast rolls in a dressing gown. Berlin is not like that. Berlin has been trying hard to be a real capital ever since its educated middle classes began to chafe at

the *Unteroffizier* mentality of the Hohenzollerns at the end of the 18th century. The city has had no great architect since the neoclassical Schinkel in the early 19th century, but its character was created by the great barrack-like blocks of flats built round courtyards after the first unification of 1871. The pomposity of Berlin's later public buildings, such as the Reichstag, is not of a threatening kind: Hitler and Speer, the architect-tyrants, bequeathed few buildings, and most were razed in the war. Parts of Berlin still resemble a miniature version of Haussmann's Paris — an effect which its partly Huguenot populace and French-speaking aristocracy doubtless intended.

Having lived in both cities, I do not wish either one to suffer from the more or less arbitrary and by no means disinterested decision of the parliamentary *Abgeordnete* this week. In practice the decision

is most likely to be fudge: either it will be put off *ad kalendas Graecas* (2015 has been mooted), or the spoils of government will be divided. One suggestion is that the president, the Bundestag (upper house), the foreign ministry and the embassies should move to Berlin; other ministries and the Bundestag would stay put in Bonn. Quite apart from the fact that President von Weizsäcker already has splendid residences in both cities, the idea of splitting the functions of government is unworthy of a great power.

That, however, is the point. Germany cannot decide whether she is a great power. If the Germans were ready to accept the responsibilities of the power they already wield, they would not hesitate. If they want a capital commensurate with their world status, Berlin is the only one there is. But the Germans are more likely to prefer to remain a decadent nation. Bonn is as unassuming an excuse for not having a capital as one could imagine.

Ronald Butt

## Facing the truth on Europe

The prime minister was right to say on Friday that Britain should not "sulk on the fringe of talks about the destiny of Europe" or let itself be "sidelined". That is also the opinion of the great majority of Tories in and out of Parliament. One of the reasons Mrs Thatcher is no longer their leader is that most Tories wanted to abandon her truculent dislike of even talking about economic and monetary union, and her apparently instinctive distaste for the community. But European politicians would be wrong to assume that Britain will eventually accept a single currency and central bank on terms determined by the majority of member states. If that had been what the Tories had wanted they would have made Michael Heseltine leader.

The foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, was therefore less than skilful in his choice of metaphor when he said last week that the Euro-critics' bubble had burst. Speaking as the mass of Tory MPs were uniting to support the government against its extreme critics in the party, Mr Hurd might have seemed to have a point. But the misgivings in the Tory party are not a bubble and they have not burst.

Most Tories do want greater European unity, but they do not share the conviction of the minority who think this is without serious political implications. The majority both accepts John Major's statement that "the economic case for monetary union has not been made" and understands that this does not protect Britain from being manoeuvred into Emu if most member countries accept it.

The more successful the community is in planning "convergence" between the disparate economies, the harder it will be for Britain to avoid following the others. The formula that Emu cannot be imposed on us, and that a future parliament will be free to decide, is nonsense. The real danger is that we shall be impelled to impose it on ourselves because we cannot afford to stay out. We now have to participate honestly in talks in order to make our case. But Mr Major's statement that we may have to say no to Emu if common ground cannot be found is not sufficient guarantee against the attendant risks.

Our object should be, above all, to bring the other nation states to see that the political risks of monetary union are as real for them as for us. A single currency would make the logic of a central bank imperative, and that bank's control over interest rates would indirectly determine each state's fiscal (and therefore social) policy. So the crucial question is whether the central bank would be "free" of political control or be matched with some kind of central political authority, on which the Germans and French have divergent opinions. In practice, some kind of central political authority, or community government, would be inevitable. But how would it be made democratically accountable?

A favourite answer is that it should be responsible to the European parliament. But in that parliament, every nation could be outvoted by the rest, even on matters that concerned it most directly. Democratic accountability would be at risk and the community could be blown apart by national frustrations.

The community is approaching the question of European union from the wrong end. It should start not with monetary union but by trying to define to what extent and what kind of political union is tolerable to its member states, then seek economic arrangements to fit. The community was invented as a device by which political union could be approached by stealth via economic union. Member states were thus manoeuvred towards political goals they would never have accepted if these had been openly proclaimed.

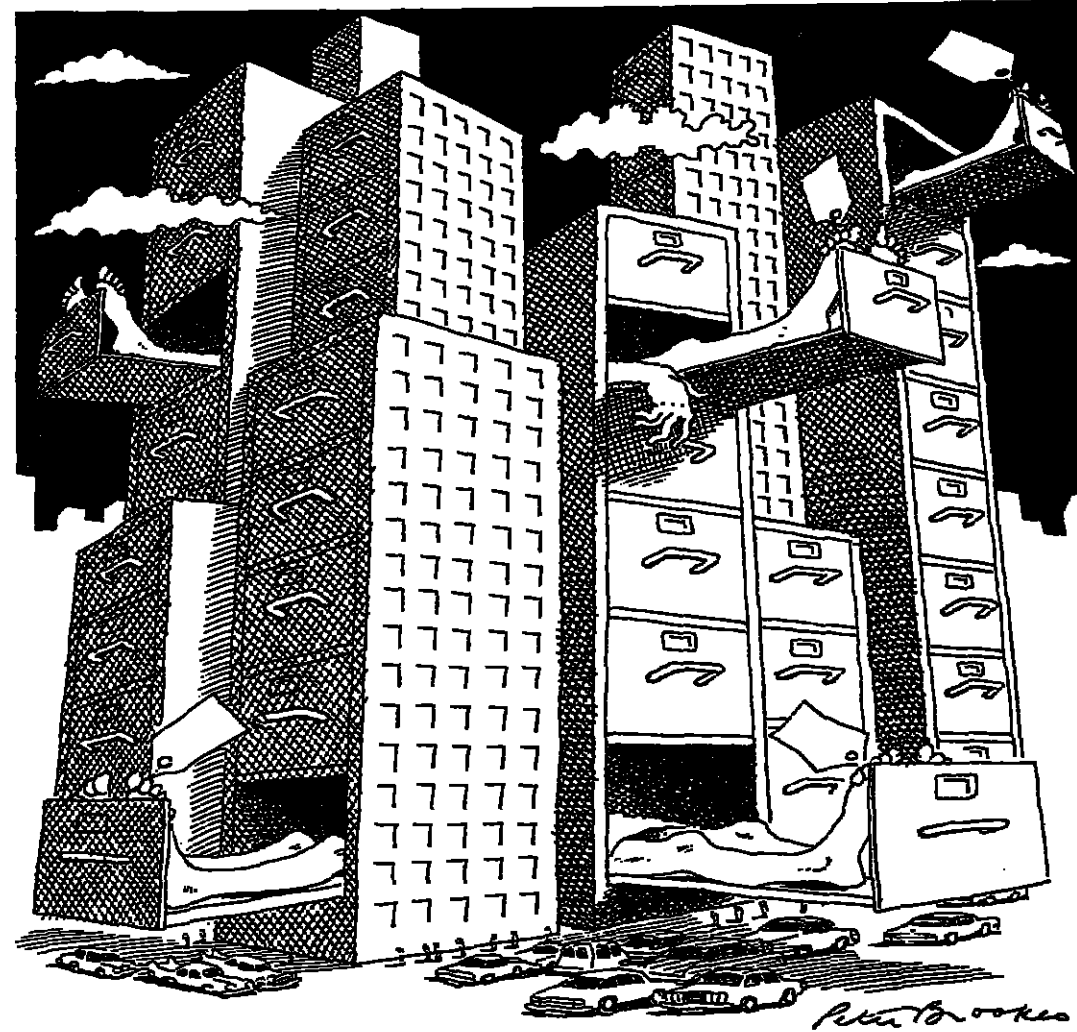
The method has its advantages, but the disadvantages have now surfaced and must be faced. What is amazing is that European statesmen of the stature of Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand seem prepared to pursue economic union and let the political consequences take care of themselves. Given Britain's stronger concept of the value of parliament, that is not an attitude British Conservatives can afford. The great majority of the party, while warmly committed to the community, would expect the government, as negotiations progress, to be much more explicit than it has been about the political consequences of economic union.

When, a dozen or so years ago, the city of New York was facing, entirely through its own fault, a devastating financial collapse, Felix Rohatyn, the economic wizard, was called in as the city's last hope. With careful, sensible, achievable goals in mind, he went to work. Rohatyn brought the city back from the edge of catastrophe, but he made clear that he had not found any wonder pill that would cure New York's countless municipal diseases in the twinkling of a couple of billion dollars. The words in which he gave the warning were memorable: "Saving New York from ruin," he said "is like making love to a gorilla — you don't stop when you're tired, you stop when the gorilla is tired."

The gorilla is by no means tired yet; the city's financial woes are mounting again, and that hapless clown of a mayor sways to and fro in bewilderment, aching piteously for someone to tell him what to do, and indeed what he has just done. But in one respect New York can hold up its head with pride; though the city is rotting away, though every week thousands pack up and leave, though the conditions for those who stay get steadily worse, though it suffers the jeers of other cities for its crumbling financial credibility, so that its revenue-raising bonds are viewed with increasing suspicion by investors, it does at least have a murder rate which has recently reached a level not only magnificent in itself, but managing an increase on the last accounting year of no less than 17.8 per cent. Yes folks, in 1990, 2,245 people were murdered in the city of New York or, as those responsible for the official count scrupulously said, at least 2,245 suffered that displeasing but interesting fate.

Let us take the 17.8 per cent increase first. It shows a most commendable spirit, particularly since the worries associated with the city's financial state might have been enough sufficient to put such striving for records in abeyance. Not a bit so far from the murderers easing up, it is clear that they were really putting their backs into it; it is possible, indeed, that they were doing such sterling work precisely because they felt the shame of New York's multiple criminal inadequacies (the number of burglaries had actually declined by 1.1 per cent, a shocking stain hardly erased even by the admirable efforts of those in

## Why is America, foremost of civilised nations, also one of the most murderously unlawful? asks Bernard Levin



charge of robberies, who notched up 100,280 as against last year's pitiful figure of 93,377). And bear in mind that although some of the unfortunate who figured in the grand — very grand — total were dispatched for cash down, in the great majority of cases no money or money's worth changed hands. I find the indifference to material satisfaction among New York murderers profoundly moving.

Of course, even the murderers of New York cannot keep up their determination to maintain the record unless they can find some stimulus to push them to the limit. Just as a tennis-player can practise as many shots as he likes against a wall, it will never be the same as having a live opponent on the other side of the net. So it is with

New York's murderers; they must have real competition. Efforts to put this urgent necessity into practice have been sensationally successful. All over the United States, the cities proudly parade their homicide statistics; many of the nail that is bitten in the wait for the release of the official figures, and deep is the despair when, say, Los Angeles has failed to surpass Chicago, while loud is the rejoicing if, say, Miami has pipped Detroit at the post. It is hardly for me to take sides, but perhaps I may suggest that the great cities should each engage a hit squad, to be paid for from municipal funds — no cowboy groups here — to bump up (or off, I suppose) the figures in the anxious weeks before the winner is named,

appalling quality of American law and its delays — but still the rattle of musketry and the thud of falling victims deafen the passers-by.

There is an irony for us in this carnage: many loose-mouthed and pig-ignorant Americans find it gives them a nice warm feeling to decry the wickedness of the British government in its Northern Ireland policy, because of which a shocking number of people die each year by violence in the sectarian causes of the province. And so they do, though it might sober a few of the American critics to know that the annual number of such fatalities would be achieved in New York alone in one and a half weeks, and by the United States in general in a little over four hours. Surely a case of the pot calling the kettle miscegenated.

The reason is as difficult to find as a cure, but many a friend and admirer of the United States, and I am both, finds it disturbing. Not disturbing because we might be included in the figures at any moment, though that thought does occur to us from time to time, but because it may signal a more widespread breakdown: remember that although the figures of violent crime fluctuate, the incidence of mayhem grows steadily greater through the years. It is strange that in many ways the United States is a most law-abiding country, and in matters close to the line between legal and illegal can be as strict as any Puritan could wish. What strain of violence, then, runs through a people sufficiently open-hearted to be amazed, when they go abroad, at the fences and walls that other countries feel they need to keep the neighbours away, while they are themselves increasingly ready to shoot a stranger on their land and ask him his business after they have done so?

I doubt if many prospective visitors to the United States turn back when they see the crime figures: after all, although 2,245 people were murdered in New York last year, far more than that were not even mugged. But these things are not governed by reason on either side: the only thing that we, and they, can be certain of is that the violence has a meaning, and a dark one at that.

When will that darkness lift? How will it lift? Will it lift? I do not know, nor do the people of America. Meanwhile, there is bad news from New York; Seattle has just carried off the murder crown.

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

Walking back to Shadwell, not long ago, in the small hours, it struck me that my campaign against black taxis might be futile. You haven't heard about it? Not have they? That is the nature of the difficulty.

I am conducting a personal boycott of black taxis to punish them for not picking me and my bicycle up the night I got a puncture in Putney. They had no excuse. Four of them, with their orange lights illuminated, passed me during the hour it took to walk to Vauxhall. I hailed each, clearly. I was respectfully dressed and reasonably sober. And don't tell me a black cab cannot fit a bicycle inside because it can. Black cabs are roomy, that is the point of them.

As I gave up trying to hail one, remounted my bike on the Albert Embankment and cycled on, bruising my bottom and shredding the flat rear tyre, I made the undertaking that has since proved such a problem.

Bump, bump, bump — the bicycle's frame and mine were hammered by a rhythmic jolt as the lumpy part of the inner tube (where the valve seat is) hit the road every pi x 274 inches for the four miles left to Shadwell. Bump, so they don't want my custom, bump, well they can jolly well manage without, bump, forever, bump, well maybe not for ever, for six months then, bump, I'll take mini cabs, or walk, bump, that'll teach them.

And I have kept to it. This has not been easy, having coincided with my campaign against

London Buses (for starting to replace Routemasters on the number 11 with those conductorless biscuit-tin buses) and my boycott of the Underground (for not fixing the escalators) but I have persisted. On 17 occasions when I probably would have used a black cab (if there had been one) I have found another way to go. On a rough calculation this has cost black cabs £76.50, inclusive of tips.

Should they have any complaint about that, they had better take it to the four cabbies who did not pick up a dismounted cyclist walking down the Wandsworth Road in the small hours. If they can remember who they are.

The trouble is, I am not sure the black cabs have noticed. I have been tempted to flag one down and tell it why I am not going to get in, but this could prove unwise. So though Mrs Thatcher explained often to me that individual consumer choice is our best guarantee of service, a lingering doubt remains: does the mechanism work? Is Adam Smith's "invisible hand" which is not halting a taxi now, successfully delivering the corrective smack to the collective bottoms of cab drivers?

I doubt it. The doubt has plagued me from my earliest days. In 1969, responding to a call by the National Union of Students to boycott Barclays Bank because of its investments in South Africa, I walked into Barclays on Bene't Street in Cambridge, shook the hand of Mr Patrick Hall, the young assistant manager, and opened my first account. The explana-

tion is important. This was done not out of support for apartheid, but despite my opposition to apartheid and as a rebuke to the NUS for being so sanctimonious. I said so, too, but was never convinced the full shock of my wrath was felt.

As to whether Barclays is sensible of the favour I did the bank, Mr Hall, still my manager, and an older and wiser man, may have quiet doubts.

Things are closing in on me. Travel is becoming difficult. I do try to buy as much Texaco petrol as possible, out of gratitude to the Manchester Exchange Theatre company's marvellous *Pride and Prejudice*, which Texaco sponsored in a tent in a sports centre in Burton-upon-Trent... but where am I to drive? My personal protest against the M1, combined with my intermittent sanctions against British Rail, catches me in a pincer movement just as my refusal to fly within Britain while the price cartel persists begins to bite.

And now I can't drink instant coffee because the advertisements with the yuppie lovers are odious. I went over to Red Mountain but soon became appalled by the commercial with a woman making purring noises in her kitchen. So I switched to ordinary Nescafé, but can no longer be seen to condone the television ad in which the stupid man asks the repellent woman whether he can stay "just for the beanshake". That leaves tea, and anything else advertised by chimpanzees, but nothing advertised by Nigel Havers.

## Socially unacceptable

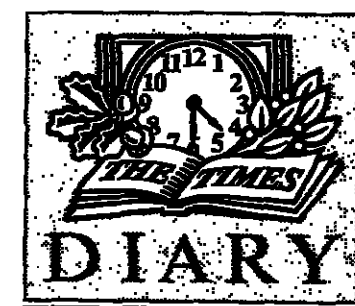
John Major may have ruled out a place round his cabinet table for David Owen, but that has not deterred the former leader of the SDP from continuing his flirtation with the Conservatives. Next month he is a guest of the Tory Reform Group, where he will debate with David Mellor the virtues of the social market.

With Europe still straining Tory loyalties the phrase "social market" has come to epitomise the other ideological war in the party, representing what Nicholas Ridley and his kind believe is "the rolling back of Thatcherism". While Owen, who adopted the words as his personal credo soon after the launch of the SDP, will have no difficulty praising the ideal, what will Mellor have to say?

Although the words appeared in an early draft of the document that will eventually become the election manifesto, Major is understood to have deleted it since. And although Chris Patten, the party chairman, lauded the virtues of the social market in a magazine interview earlier this year, Major has let it be known that he will not use the phrase or allow it to appear in policy documents while he is the party leader.

Tory critics of the phrase should check the party's history books. Ludwig Erhard, West Germany's economics minister under Konrad Adenauer, was originally credited with having created the social market concept, which was adopted as policy by his country's Christian Democrats.

The first British Tory to espouse its virtues was not Patten but the unlikely figure of Keith Joseph, Mrs Thatcher's guru, who started using the tag after the 1974 election defeat. Owen says: "Whatever John Major may say, the phrase is here to stay."



Fishmongers everywhere will be delighted to hear that a use has at last been found for their old spiritual home in Billingsgate. The market hall has stood empty since Sir Richard Rogers converted it in 1980 into a City dealing room. Now Citigate, which owns it, is leading the hall to the Ballet Rambert for a one-off gala performance in September. The programme has been designed by Richard Alston, Rambert's artistic director, and a special menu has been prepared. Fish, of course.

## Rotten reels

Scotland's only Oscar-winning film, a 30-minute documentary on Clyde shipbuilding, is at risk from a chemical menace that has been discovered in the Scottish Film Archive. Up to 19,000 reels depicting life north of the border over the past century are endangered by vinegar syndrome, which causes a chemical reaction in the acetate-based film.

Film buffs are most concerned about the risk to *Seaways the Great Ships*, the surprise Academy Award winner in the best short documentary section in 1960. Forsyth Hardy, 81, the producer, says: "The shipyard managers did not want us to make it. They thought it might lead to more orders, and they had enough work. There were 23 yards then, compared with one today." Hardy never expected to

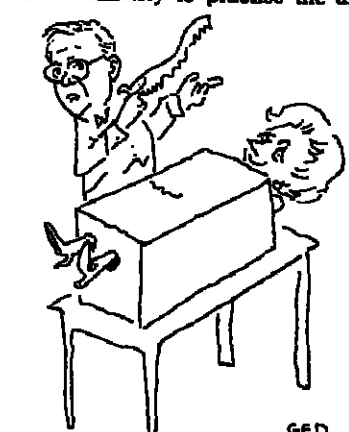
win the Oscar, so no one from the production crew attended the awards ceremony. "I think it was someone from the British embassy who picked it up on our behalf."

## Party tricks

When John MacGregor performs his favourite party piece tonight, it will not be for the Conservatives. He is one of only two MPs in the Magic Circle, and will wave his wand for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund dinner in Westminster.

However, like all good conjurers, the leader of the Commons is giving away no secrets. "I can produce things out of a hat, I can saw glamorous assistants in half, and make people disappear. You can be certain I will have a few tricks up my sleeve," he says.

MacGregor's most accomplished feat is mind-reading, but he is unlikely to practise the art



with Chancellor Norman Lamont and Michael Howard, the employment secretary, among the guests. "I don't want to give away too many cabinet secrets," he says. MacGregor has entertained cabinet colleagues with his tricks before, most notably during Budget summits at Chevening when Nigel Lawson was trying to

work his magic on the economy. Somewhere along the line a bad spell must have been cast.

One would have thought Sir Wyn Roberts, a Welsh Office minister since 1979, would have been one of the best known faces at the Tories' Welsh conference at Swansea. On Saturday, the day he was made a privy counsellor, security staff at the conference tried to prevent him from entering the car park. They had never heard of him.

## Undercover work

One of the most unlikely attractions at the Paris Air Show, which ended yesterday, was an RAF Jaguar. However, it was not its role with the 41st Squadron in 30 combat missions in the Gulf war, but the 2-ft-high painting on the fighter's nose that generated the interest.

The artwork shows a woman called Mary Rose dressed in an all-black Arabic costume that the wind has blown high to expose stockings and suspenders. Wing Commander Bill Pixton of the squadron was highly amused. "It's my wife, Mary Rose," he admits from his base at RAF Coltishall. "I asked a painter to do it for me. Everyone saw the joke." Even his wife? "I think she did."

If the Northern Ireland talks resume this morning, the four party leaders have been asked to shake hands on the steps of Stormont Castle. But James Moynaneux, leader of the Official Unionists, may duck the photo-call with Ian Paisley, John Hume and John Alderdice. Sources say Moynaneux fears he would be expected then to do the same with Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, at the second stage of the talks. While Moynaneux may be persuaded to press the flesh with Hume Haughey is out of the question. All this before the talks have even begun.





## MR YELTSIN'S MANDATE

President Gorbachev's new promise to co-operate with Boris Yeltsin is good news. But hardliners at the Soviet interior and defence ministries remain powerful and, despite rumours, there is no concrete evidence yet that Mr Gorbachev is ready to part company from them. So western interest as well as protocol now dictate that Mr Yeltsin, the first directly elected president of the Russian Federation, will be received by George Bush at the White House on Thursday. But most western leaders have treated Boris Yeltsin shabbily, at least until last week, and it remains unclear whether Washington is willing to treat him as seriously as he deserves.

In their dealings with the Russian and Soviet governments, western states and companies will have to respect the division of responsibilities which Presidents Yeltsin and Gorbachev work out for themselves. As yet, this division is unclear. Rumour has it that both are intent on proceeding with the task of bringing the Russian economy into the late twentieth century. But Mr Gorbachev still controls both the economic and the military levers of the state.

Mr Yeltsin does not even have his own parliament under his control. His mandate gives him greater freedom of thought and action. But it does not free him from the need to forge alliances with unfamiliar bedfellows, such as the police, to compromise with powerful interest groups whose existence he calls into question, and to persuade those who dread the loss of their livelihoods that new ones can be created.

To devise new plans for transition to a market economy is not Mr Yeltsin's most urgent job. Russia has plans aplenty from a myriad Western institutions, but no foreign academy can instil in Moscow the political will. Mr Yeltsin must put such plans into action. That requires negotiating tactics built not on formal power, which he does not yet have, but on the moral authority of last week's election. During his campaign, he was liberal with reassurances to workers in heavy industry. He has proved that he can win their trust. Now he must prove that he is also ready to take unpopular measures to

reorganise the economy. This week Mr Yeltsin must convince President Bush that he is determined to overcome resistance not just to privatisation but to the distribution of assets now under the control of the Communist party. Unless the burdens of transition fall on the nomenklatura too, there will be popular discontent, which will turn against Mr Yeltsin and the democratic coalition.

The consensus behind change is broad but not all-inclusive. Roughly one-sixth of the electorate voted for Nikolai Ryzhkov last week broadly the proportion of the population that stands to lose by Mr Yeltsin's policies. These people are mainly beneficiaries of state or party bureaucracies, the military-industrial complex, or the mafia-like networks that control sources of hard currency. Some of them will switch allegiance as they see power accumulating around Mr Yeltsin: with such trimmers in mind, he has a deputy, Aleksandr Rutskoi, who is a military man and a party member.

The Russian government may increasingly assume control of the key industries, sidelining the Soviet planners. But behind such a shift will lie a titanic trial of strength. For the assets represented by Russian industry are the assets that underpin Soviet military might. The Soviet foreign ministry will continue to conduct diplomacy on behalf of Russia and the other republics. The empire is still in being, as Mr Gorbachev periodically shows in the Baltics. The only robust conclusion this week is that future negotiations with the Soviet Union will be more complex than in the past.

The West must respond to this complexity. It is immensely in the West's interest for Russia to live at peace with itself and the rest of the world, and for the reform path charted by Mr Yeltsin to succeed. Inviting the Russian government to future economic negotiations, including those following the pageantry of G-7 next month, may be unpalatable to the Kremlin. But Mr Gorbachev must know that his leverage is now diminished by a democratically elected compatriot. He must negotiate jointly with Mr Yeltsin, or not at all.

## NO STOP-LOSS FOR LLOYD'S

British citizens are losing jobs, homes and small businesses in record numbers. But when they ask for relief, the Chancellor's reply is phlegmatic and unyielding. They are cannon fodder in a just war against inflation and their sacrifice is a "price well worth paying". Now a group of the wealthiest in the land, including sportsmen, actors and five dozen sitting Conservative MPs, face large financial losses as underwriters at Lloyd's. The Treasury snaps to attention. Politically, morally and economically, this beggars belief.

Lloyd's is a monument to British originality and eccentricity, with the virtues and vices of both. The market's 26,500 "names" or sleeping partners need to know nothing about insurance but must pledge their personal fortunes "down to the last cufflink" in case the business taken on by professional underwriters turns sour. This is precisely what has happened after a series of frauds and natural and man-made disasters. Many names now face large losses and some may suffer financial ruin.

Hence the appeal to the government — not for a "bail-out", but for a little relief from tax. The government is considering extending to the names a relief introduced for incorporated businesses in the last Budget. This would allow them to offset one year's losses against the profits earned in the previous three. But because the insurance business accounts with a time lag, the relief would have to be introduced retrospectively to be of any use to the names before 1994.

The Treasury should ignore this plea. Lloyd's members are not corporations. They do not provide employment or run their own insurance operations. They are essentially passive investors, like people who buy

insurance company shares. They do suffer the extra burden of unlimited liability, but so do speculators who buy commodity futures or write stockmarket options. As for Lloyd's international standing and foreign exchange earnings, the government has rightly rejected this pretext for offering other industries (such as films) special favours. In any case, Lloyd's international competitiveness depends on the competence of its underwriters, not the wealth of individual names.

If the names are now facing ruinous losses, it is from a combination of unlimited liability and the incompetence or dishonesty of certain Lloyd's underwriters and agents. Unlimited liability may be archaic but it has profited the names over the years by restricting membership of the club and boosting the profits of members. If Lloyd's has failed to regulate itself, there may be a case for all the names clubbing together to bail out the victims and preserve the reputation of the market. But Lloyd's quite specifically demanded exclusion from recent financial services regulation. It can hardly demand government intervention only when it needs it.

The Labour party at the weekend advocated a Lloyd's bail-out. This is a pre-election trap of the most cynical kind. For Labour, a Lloyd's tax break would be a precedent for subsidising and bailing out every troubled industry and interest group, all of which are bound to be more deserving than Lloyd's. Of course Labour's front bench would promise not to embarrass the government over a Lloyd's bail-out. The voters will do it for them.

## THE SADIM TOUCH

The Conservatives appear relieved that David Owen's flirtation with John Major seems to be over. Dr Owen has turned Midas's touch back to front: every party he lays a finger on seems to shudder and split. That a phoenix has risen from the embers of the Labour party he left in 1981 is only thanks to eight years of effort by Neil Kinnock. Paddy Ashdown has faced a similar task in repairing the wreckage wrought by Dr Owen on the alliance of the Social Democrats and the Liberals. The rump of the SDP, Dr Owen's own party, has all but disappeared.

To effect such damage on not one party but three is more than carelessness. It is also a measure of Dr Owen's political potency. The historical precedents may not be kind to politicians outside the party mould. Enoch Powell left the Tories in 1974 to join the official Ulster Unionists and never held a cabinet post again. Sir Oswald Mosley changed parties twice. His *Times* obituary claimed he was "still believed... to have been the most gifted British political leader of the twentieth century". He achieved little more than notoriety.

Dr Owen, though, is clearly still eager for high office. Since he left the Liberal Democrats, he has flirted consecutively with the Labour party and the Conservatives. There has been no loss of ideological principle here. Labour's policy review produced a package little different from the SDP's original manifesto. Chris Patten, the Conservative party chairman, is equally enamoured with what is obscurely called the "social market", a term much favoured by Dr Owen. But then the big parties have spent

their lives stealing the clothes, or at least the cosmetics, of centre parties. Dr Owen has never needed a policy, only a party. He now looks like a compass needle in the middle of a magnetic storm, swivelling wildly from one direction to another and settling nowhere. Where next? Plaid Cymru?

Dr Owen's negotiations with Mr Major seem to have foundered on his insistence that the Tory party withdraw its candidates from Greenwich and Woolwich, held by the only other SDP MPs, Rosie Barnes and John Cartwright. His loyalty to his fellow defectors is admirable. But while the Tory in Dr Owen's own constituency might conceivably have stood aside in the party's interest, others cannot be expected to swallow hemlock in honour of Mr Cartwright and Mrs Barnes.

Dr Owen's endorsement might three years ago have brought with it a sizeable chunk of the centre party vote. His credibility has suffered with his vacillation. But he could yet bring the Tories that elusive quality, "bottom". His presence would undoubtedly prove an asset to Mr Major, whose team is still inexperienced and lacklustre in public. The Tories might have to do deals with the likes of Dr Owen in a hung parliament, so why not now when it could do the party electoral good? But the terms should be clear: Dr Owen cannot be in Mr Major's cabinet unless he clearly defines himself in terms acceptable to the admittedly revisionist Tory party, and that party cannot stand down in favour of Dr Owen's rump candidates in south London. Since Dr Owen will not accept either condition, the whole affair is an eddy in Limehouse Reach.

## MPs 'should be given free vote' on murder sentences

From the Chairman of the Council of Justice

Sir, The House of Commons will shortly consider the Lords' amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill. The most important of these abolishes the mandatory "life" sentence for murder and was carried in the Lords by an overwhelming majority of 177 for and 79 against. Of the 177, 65 were Labour, 43 independent, 34 Conservative, and the remainder Liberal Democrat/Social Democrat. All of the independent peers who voted except one were in favour. This would enable, as with all other criminal offences, the judge to determine the sentence. Life would be the maximum.

A second amendment, also carried by a 2-to-1 majority on a substantial cross-party vote, requires that the penal term (that is the punishment element and not any extra time which may be necessary for the protection of the public) spent in custody by life-sentence prisoners should be fixed in public by the trial judge and be subject to appeal.

This would be in place of the present practice whereby a Home Office junior minister fixes the term behind closed doors. This amendment also accords with the general principle that the judges, and not the executive, should fix the length of punishment.

The final group of amendments authorised the establishment of a judicial tribunal to determine the timing of the release of life-sentence prisoners when the penal term has expired. In the case of murderers, this would remain, as at present, always on life licence.

These important amendments implement the main recommendations of the select committee of the House of Lords on murder and life imprisonment which was set up following the concern expressed in 1987, amongst others by Lord Hailsham (who had just retired as Lord Chancellor). Lord Windlesham (then chairman of the Parole Board and previously a Conservative Home Office minister) and Lord Harris of Greenwich (a former Labour minister at the Home Office and also chairman of the Parole Board).

Since 1965, when the mandatory life sentence replaced capital punishment as the penalty for murder, it has become increasingly apparent that the administration of justice, as it bears on murder and life imprisonment, is open to grave criticism. It has become perfectly clear that since the scope of murder is so wide — it may extend from the most pathetic case of mercy killing to the most vicious murder in the course of rape — that the imposition of the same sentence in all cases leads to injustice.

This anomaly has led juries to seek to bring in a verdict of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility or provocation, so as to avoid the mandatory life sentence, even though the evidence in support of these grounds may be very slender.

So far as the public is concerned, the life sentence for murder has become devalued because of a general expectation that it really amounts to about nine years. This belief is not surprising, since this is

the average sentence actually served when the less grave offences are lumped together with the most serious.

The amendment would improve public understanding, and make it plain that the punishment will fit the crime. As the select committee wrote:

The committee expect that their proposals will lead to very lengthy penal sanctions being set in the most grave cases. In some cases, this may result in imprisonment for the rest of the prisoner's life.

So the public will know the length of punishment which is intended for a particular offence, and appreciate that there is no question of going "soft on crime".

The secrecy with which the Home Office administers life sentences has been strongly criticised as failing to measure up to the basic principle that justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done. Home Office ministers approach their task conscientiously, but decisions made behind closed doors, often differing from the recommendations of judges and given without reasons, are bound to be arbitrary.

Justice hopes that, when these amendments come before the Commons, they will be regarded as issues of conscience and not appropriate for recourse to party whips. This is surely an area in which the views of individual members should be taken without any pressure being applied to them.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT ALEXANDER,  
Chairman of Council,  
Justice, 95a Chancery Lane, WC2.

## Lotteries and the arts

From the Chairman of the National Art Collections Fund

Sir, The government is reported to be about to announce its decision on whether to go ahead with the sports and arts foundation financed by the football pools companies (report, June 6), thus ruling out the possibility of a national lottery.

Many of our European neighbours gain a notable part of their expenditure on the arts from national lotteries. The impressive development of German museums as well as the accompanying acquisitions have been made possible with lottery income.

A national lottery is a ready and significant source of income for the arts, and costs the taxpayer nothing. The income could transform, for instance, our museums' ability to compete in the international market for works of art, and provide vital core support for the performing arts.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS GOODISON,  
Chairman,  
National Art Collections Fund,  
20 John Islip Street, SW1,  
June 13.

## Punk and the classics

From Mr Toby Stevenson

Sir, Following John Drummond's attack on the performance style of Nigel Kennedy (Richard Morrison's article, June 11), it does have to be said that Mr Kennedy's image does appear rather contrived.

He is, however, very successful as a result, particularly with younger audiences, and is the only classical performer to command record sales that place him alongside the likes of David Bowie and New Kids on the Block.

Surely the apparently large increase in listening figures for Radio 3 is due not solely to Mr Drummond's management but as much to the efforts of musicians such as Mr Kennedy in introducing the classics to those who would normally diet solely on the hit parade.

Yours faithfully,  
TOBY STEVENSON,  
The Old Forge,  
Freshfield Crossways,  
Nr Soaynes Hill, Sussex,  
June 11.

From Mr D. R. Bowes

Sir, Surely any musical classicist can only deplore the degradation of style that Nigel Kennedy seems intent on introducing with his performance in the concert hall and on television. That your distinguished music critic, Richard Morrison, could condone and accept such aberrations under the headline "Redressing the classical balance" is further evidence of the decline in values.

John Drummond is to be praised for his outspoken comments.

Yours truly,  
D. R. BOWES,  
17 Millicroft,  
Bishop's Stortford,  
Hertfordshire,  
June 12.

## Valued engineers

From Mr J. V. Corcoran

Sir, In your edition of June 11, Mary Dejevsky provided profiles of the Russian republic's presidential candidates and their running mates.

There are four engineers, one military service officer, and one lawyer as presidential candidates. Among their running mates are two engineers, two military service officers, one economist and one (Mr Abdulatipov) who would appear to have no particular specialisation.

Unlike in Britain, engineers in Russia would appear to be an important and powerful profession.

Yours faithfully,  
J. V. CORCORAN,  
5 Hill Farm Court,  
Edwalton,  
Nottingham,  
June 13.

## Treating sex offenders

From Dr N. Eastman and others

Sir, As members of a clinical and academic department of forensic psychiatry we were interested to learn of the home secretary's initiative for the assessment and treatment of sex offenders in prison (report, June 8).

Mr Kenneth Baker states that it is the intention to convert sex offenders into 20 prisons which will be staffed by specially trained prison officers, psychiatrists and psychologists.

We were further interested to note that offenders would be assessed according to indicators of likely response to treatment and that the proposed programme, combined with closer supervision after release, would be likely to result in a reduced recidivism rate. We have grave reservations about a number of aspects of his statement.

First, we are not aware of the existence of specially trained staff in the professional categories identified in numbers sufficient to deal with the population of prisoners that he identifies. It must therefore be the case that any programme will involve substantial resource implications and will have to be "staged".

Secondly, we are not aware of reliable and valid indicators which

will predict response to treatment. Although some research in the United States suggests decreased recidivism following treatment, the results cannot necessarily be extrapolated to a British prison population. Indeed the wealth of research coming out of the United States is a reflection of the amount of resources being applied to the problem in that country.

We would suggest that Mr Baker's approach represents a triumph of hope over experience and that until the efficacy of various treatment programmes has been evaluated statements about decreased risk to the public must represent no more than empty promises.

We welcome Mr Baker's recognition of the importance and extent of the problem. However, the government should be committed to substantial resourcing of research into treatment outcome such that the public can be accurately informed as to the likely advantages both to offenders and to potential victims of a range of programmes.

Yours faithfully,  
N. EASTMAN, G. ADSHEAD,  
A. BARTLEY, G. MEZEY,  
St George's Hospital,  
Medical School,  
Cranmer Terrace, Tooting, SW17,  
June 8.

## Police sickness

From Dr Neville Davis

Sir, Having campaigned for many years for the provision of occupational health services for the constabularies, I welcome the work of the Home Affairs select committee on police sickness (report, June 11).

Occupational physicians talk of absence "attributable to" rather than "due to" sickness, since we are very much aware of the role played by other factors. In the case of police officers these include shift systems which tax the soundest marriage, repeated exposure to sudden and

often brutal death and to the trauma of violent accidents as well as violence to their own persons, and having to deal constantly with aggression and suspicion.

In addition they are much aware of their public accountability and the intense scrutiny of their activities. The burdens we impose on this group of public servants are heavy by any standards and a measure of tolerance is appropriate when considering these matters.

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,  
NEVILLE DAVIS,  
Redroofs, Windmill Lane,  
Arkle, Hertfordshire,  
June 11.

## The case for lead shot

From Mr Graham Downing

Sir, Simon Barnes says in his article "Feather report", June 8 that shooters using lead shot dump an estimated 2,000 tons of it every year over our environment. If there was a proven case for wildfowling to stop using lead shot in favour of a non-toxic alternative we would do so without hesitation.

But the issue is not as clear cut as Mr Barnes imagines. First, cases of lead poisoning amongst waterfowl in the UK have been few; where problems have occurred they have been directly linked to local shooting practices, such as the siting of a clay-pigeon shooting ground adjacent to an area in which wildfowl regularly feed.

While shot deposits may indeed build up in shallow freshwater wetlands, I do not believe that lead shot from coastal wildfowling, such as that which occurs on the Essex estuaries, is at all significant. The small quantity of shot fired is quickly removed from the reach of feeding birds by the action of soft

mud and tidal scour.

We have experimented with various alternatives to lead, but at present the only realistic one is steel which quickly loses its energy in flight. Shooters using it are therefore far more likely to end up with wounded rather than dead birds. Nor are present steel loads suitable for standard English guns. Recent tests have shown that they can produce dangerously high barrel pressures.

The lead-shot issue is one which affects all shooters, not just wildfowling. Where local problems of lead poisoning exist, then answers must be found to them, and those answers may include the use of alternatives to lead shot. But I am not convinced that a total ban on lead is either appropriate or necessary.

Yours faithfully,  
GRAHAM DOWNING,  
(Chairman, Essex Joint Council of Wildfowling Clubs),  
8 High Street,  
Nayland, Colchester, Essex,  
June 11.

## Talk to Israel

From the Ambassador of Israel

Sir, I fully agree with the conclusion of your editorial of June 7, "Calling Israel's bluff", in that the governments of the region must sit down and talk to each other in order to reach peace.

In fact this has been Israel's policy since its establishment in 1948. Every Israeli government has called upon our neighbours to sit down at the negotiating table but to date all but Egypt have refused to do so.

Throughout history no better way to solve disputes between countries has been found than direct bilateral negotiations. The Arab states refuse and demand an international conference in which they can avoid

dealing directly with a state that according to their policy does not exist. On Syrian tourist maps the name of its western neighbour does not even appear.

If the Arab states are interested in genuine peace they will find in Israel a willing partner — let them come and negotiate in direct talks without any pre-conditions.

Yours sincerely,  
Y. BIRAN,  
Embassy of Israel,  
2 Palace Green, W8,  
June 7.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

## HIV in orphans from Romania

From Mrs Hilary Dewey

Sir, Having recently adopted two children from Romania I am surprised to read that Peter Thurnham, Tory MP and founder of the campaign for Inter-Country Adoption, is not aware of the detailed medical examination required by the Home Office and Department of Immigration before a child can be granted an entry visa to Britain (report, June 8).

A special form provided by the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering must be completed in full before an application is considered. This includes questions on blood tests for HIV and hepatitis.

I was even more surprised to read the statement from the health department that "testing is a matter for individuals who have responsibility for that child".

In the early days after the revolution in Romania some babies may have slipped through the net. Our own two adoptions necessitated four visits to Romania, a five-month wait for the first child and four more for the second. Having seen the conditions in the orphanages one can sympathise with adoptive parents who have managed to by-pass the red tape to get a child out as quickly as possible.

I would doubt though if any such parents, having gone through what they have to get a child out of Romania, would later abandon it as Virginia Bottomley suggests should they discover that the child has, or may at some stage of his life, develop Aids or hepatitis. Many people I have met during my visits to Romania are so affected by the plight of the orphanage children that they would knowingly bring in a sick child so that it could experience some love and care in its life before death.

Directors of the orphanages fear the loss of their jobs if too many children are adopted. But these are the children who need a family and it is a tragedy that the new Romanian laws have stopped foreign adoptions from state orphanages, although private adoptions continue.

Yours faithfully,  
HILARY E. DEWEY,  
The Vicarage, Clifton Hampden,  
Nr Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

## Versatile pasty

From Mr Henry Preston

Sir, Mr R. E. Plowman (June 10) and your readers might like to know that so versatile is the Cornish pasty that Peter de Savary demands it as rent payable under the leases of his Port Penennis harbour village development. One 8oz Cornish pasty is payable by the lessees at sunrise on midsummer's day each year.

With 1,000-year leases Peter de Savary has guaranteed the survival of the Cornish pasty and its heritage almost to the year 3000. It will also keep Cornish lawyers in business for just as long arguing over the correct recipe.

Yours sincerely,  
HENRY PRESTON,  
Preston Goldburn (solicitors),  
Old Brewery Yard,  
High Street,  
Falmouth, Cornwall,  
June 10.

From Mrs Jean Warnock

Sir, I would endorse the description of the Cornish pasty as described by Mr Plowman, especially the "diced" contents.

Similar to the twinned pasty was the Bedfordshire clanger. With meat and veg at one end of a suet pastry and fruit in season at the other, the whole thing was rolled up, tied tightly in the middle to stop the contents mixing, and steamed in a flour cloth.

It was then rushed, wrapped in a towel, to the fields, with the bearer taking great care, literally, not to "drop a clanger".

Yours faithfully,  
JEAN WARNOCK,  
1 Evered House,  
Old Castle Street, E1,  
June 11.

## A way to unity...

From Lord Boardman

Sir, Whilst we are debating the merits and the cost savings that could follow the adoption of a common currency within the EC, would it not be interesting also to consider the merits and cost savings of a common language? Might not a common tongue produce even greater benefits than a single currency?

The competing claims for English, French, German, Spanish, etc., could expose in others some of the "narrow nationalistic attitudes" which are now attributed to the UK.

Yours faithfully,  
BOARDMAN,  
House of Lords,  
June 12.

## ... but Europe cut off

From Mr David Wedgwood

Sir, Summits and debates about economic or political union may come and go but the Home Office seems to have arrived at its own view of the relationship between Britain and its European partners. This week with my renewed passport I received one of their leaflets, which states (my italics): "If you are visiting the EC..."

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID WEDGWOOD,  
76 Woodstock Road, Chiswick, W4,  
June 12.











## NEW RELEASES

**CIRCUS BOYS:** Fascinating Japanese adventures of two circus youths, dazzlingly shot in black and white, though a little precious. Director: Kazuo Haruhiko. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) ICA Cinema (071-530 3547).

**LA GLOIRE DE MON PÈRE (U):** Epic tale of a French nobleman's childhood memories — dramatic, nostalgic, but excessively well-meaning. With Philippe Caubère, director. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Lumière (071-530 0691).

**A KISS BEFORE DYING (18):** Cold, fast version of Ira Levin's novel about a murderous youth (Matt Dillon) who pursues the American dream. With Sean Young, director. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Empire (071-487 9999) Whiteley (071-792 3303/3324).

**STATE OF GRACE (18):** Overlaid tale of a down-on-his-luck Penn on the horns of a dilemma in New York. With Philip Seymour Hoffman, director. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Cannon: Pantam Road (071-530 0691) Tottenham Court Road (071-436 5148).

**CITIZEN KANE (U):** Welles's enthralling chronicle of the American dream, celebrating its 50th birthday with a new print. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Cannon: Pantam Road (071-530 0691) Tottenham Court Road (071-436 5148).

**LE CÔTE D'AZUR (18):** Philippe Noiret and a vivid Parisian setting lend charm to the further adventures of two rogues. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Cannon: Chelmsford (071-530 0691) Tottenham Court Road (071-436 5148).

**DANCES WITH WOLVES (12):** Kevin Costner as the 19th-century American who joins the Sioux. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**THE DOORS (18):** Oliver Stone's depressing biography of Doors singer Jim Morrison. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**BLACK SNOW:** Robin Jarvis's satirical comedy about a man who is a satirical comedy. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**ACROSS THE FERRY:** Uncertain debate on the heritage culture, set in a beautiful landscape. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**ALL FOR LOVE:** Dreyer's Anthony and Cleopatra, a thin-blooded James. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**CARMEN JONES:** Classic production of the Herminia/Street at black musical, packed with songs. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**COPIES:** Bill Bryden's no-holds-barred, no-nonsense satire of the police. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**DANCING AT LUGHNASSA:** Simon Callow's award-winning memoir play set in 1890s Donegal. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**DICKENS'S WOMEN:** Spiffing, skilful tale of the lives of the women. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER:** Simon Callow's award-winning memoir play set in 1890s Donegal. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT:** Jason Donovan sports a golden wig for his gaudy, trashy revival. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**SPITALFIELDS FESTIVAL:** The Endymion Ensemble performs its new production of Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**WOMACK AND WOMACK:** The American soul-brothers perform the first of two films at the Albert Hall. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

**BARCLAYS NEW STAGES FESTIVAL:** Dance-group Adventures in Motion Pictures is one of four troupes competing to win a place in this month-long festival which aims to highlight companies deserving better recognition for their work. (VHS £19.99, Laserdisc £24.99, DVD £29.99) Warner: (071-436 0791).

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## Shaping a lyrical French line

## OPERA

## Les Contes d'Hoffmann

## Covent Garden

TEN years ago there was a great flurry of Hoffmanns. All over Europe, the styles had to be seen acknowledging, in style, the centenary of Offenbach's death and the premiere of his last work. Since then it has rather faded from sight.

There is a case to be made for treating Hoffmann as a special occasion piece. Certainly it trails all sorts of decisions in its path. Apart from the question of the edition, a matter on which Offenbach was not around to advise, there is the size of the cast. One bass-baritone or three for the villains who thwart Hoffmann's life? A single soprano for his three loves or a trio of different singers? And then, when the designer has solved the problem of moving from the heavy reality of Luther's tavern to the fairy world of Hoffmann's dreams, who shall play the title role?

Covent Garden's revival at least comes up with the solution to that question by persuading Alfredo Kraus, in his 64th year, to sing his first London Hoffmann. It is an interpretation very much of his own making. Kraus's Hoffmann has little in common with Domingo's besotted lover seen in a number of 1980 stagings and has even less to do with Gedda's memorable down-at-heel tramp in Chereau's earlier Paris production. For Kraus the *poète maudit* of Offenbach stands right in the middle of the tradition of French lyric roles stretching from Gounod's Faust to the

## OPERA

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Covent Garden's revival at least comes up with the solution to that question by persuading Alfredo Kraus, in his 64th year, to sing his first London Hoffmann. It is an interpretation very much of his own making. Kraus's Hoffmann has little in common with Domingo's besotted lover seen in a number of 1980 stagings and has even less to do with Gedda's memorable down-at-heel tramp in Chereau's earlier Paris production. For Kraus the *poète maudit* of Offenbach stands right in the middle of the tradition of French lyric roles stretching from Gounod's Faust to the

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Personal interpretations: Alfredo Kraus, with Leontina Vaduva

account of "Scintille diamant". Jean Rigby's Nicklaus grew in strength after an anonymous start and deserved the seldom heard Act III aria. A few minutes before, Francis Egerton had made much of the servant Frantz's brief moment of glory. John Schlesinger's production has faded, now looking over-fussy, and is gloomy without ever really coming to grips with the magic and melodrama

her new and true love, and when string octaves and tubular bells ring out her grief. Cio-Cio San's ancestral daggers never seem far away.

Two acts, though, is a long time to wait. So much of this piece is Puccini collage, and so little of that collage is foreground that the work really does need the focus, sometimes the distraction, of visual production.

The fluttering orchestral movement and verbal badinage need to be met by livelier eye contact than that between score and baton. And while Puccini so artfully spins, the exits and entrances of the gentlemen, the costume swapping and the scattering of flower petals would not come amiss.

Wayne Jennings' play — an Edinburgh Fringe First and a prize-winner in New York — intercuts the story of Dominique Prieur, the woman agent who was convicted of manslaughter, with the lives of a Polynesian couple on the contaminated atoll of Rongelap, with its poisoned sea and vegetation and the biological blight that will last for generations: children born without limbs or bones, the so-called "jellyfish" babies, "little bags of blood". The nuclear debate is conducted on many fronts; the stage is as valid as any, and in theatrical



**BBC 1**

- 6.00 **Ceefax**
- 6.30 **BBC Breakfast News**
- 9.05 **Rosemary Conley's Diet and Fitness Club.** The face is put through a vigorous workout, and the merits of a low-fat diet (r) 9.30
- The Travel Show Guides.** Penny Juran and Matthew Collins explore Southern California (r) (Ceefax)
- 10.00 **News, regional news and weather**
- 10.05 **Playdays 10.25 Bunsy (r) 10.35 Humdingers (r)**
- 11.00 **News, regional news and weather**
- 11.05 **US Golf Open Championship.** Steve Rider introduces highlights of the weekend's play from Hazeltine Golf Club, Chaska, Minnesota
- 12.00 **News, regional news and weather 12.05 Scene Again.** Judy Spiers presents showbusiness highlights from *Scene Today* 12.25 **Hoots on Scotland.** The actor and champion angler Paul Young goes in search of Scotland's wild brown trout 12.55 **Regional News and weather**
- 1.00 **One O'Clock News. Weather. (Ceefax)**
- 1.30 **Neighbours.** (Ceefax) 1.50 **Humdingers.** The jovial Jonathan Corman hosts the musical guessing game
- 2.15 **Starky and Hutch: Black and Blue.** Starky (Paul Michael Glasser) gets a new partner when Hutch (David Soul) is wounded (r) 3.00 **Head of the Class: Simone Goes Overboard.** Dennis (Dan Schneider) saves Simone's (Khrystyne Haje) life
- 3.25 **Bazaar.** Nerys Hughes presents handy hints for the home-dweller, including tips on non-fattening party food, DIY clothes, and designer dainties
- 3.50 **Betty Boop Triple Bill.** Cartoon adventures
- 4.10 **New Lassie.** (Ceefax) 4.35 **Defenders of the Earth (r) 4.55 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter.** Evergreen entertainment for the young with Yvette Fielding, Diane-Louise Jordan and John Leslie. (Ceefax)
- 5.35 **Neighbours (r).** (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: Sportswide; 5.40 **Inside Science**
- 6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. **Weather**
- 6.30 **Regional news magazines.** Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)



**Back on dry land:** star of the film *Mermaids*, Cher (7.00pm)

- 7.00 **Wogan.** Ties is back, with singer and actress *Cher*.
- 7.30 **Family Matters.** John Humphrys and guests examine ways of dealing with teenagers' behaviour difficulties
- 8.00 **Takeaway Bid.** Tired game show hosted by Bruce Forsyth and Claire Soutter. (Ceefax)
- 8.30 **Midnight News.** Trust. Chippy sitcom about two gormyish prison warden. Linda Robson believes that her husband, Danny (Alan Lewis) should have told her he was a bank robber (!)
- 9.00 **Nine o'Clock News** with Maryn Lewis. **Regional news** and weather. (Ceefax)
- 9.30 **Panorama: The Dream of Kurdistan.** Robin Denelow reports from the chessboard of the Kurdish ethnic minority attempting their dream of a homeland
- 10.10 **Film '91 in New York with Barry Norman.** Using the Big Apple as a backdrop, Norman looks at this summer's new movie releases and talks to Woody Allen about *Alice* and Harrison Ford about his new Regency production, *Sudden Death*. Also, George Clooney and director Ridley Scott discuss their new film, *Thelma & Louise*, and there is a preview of *Robin Hood – Prince of Thieves* which has Kevin Costner in the title role
- 10.50 **Law and Order: Indifference.** Greewey and Logan investigate a morbid case of child abuse. Stars Christopher Noth and George Clooney
- 11.40 **The Colour Eye: Dynamics of Paint.** Tricia Gilman shows how colour in painting is just as important as structural content
- 12.10am **The Guests of God: Mount of Mercy.** The Wentzels family continue their pilgrimage to Mecca, and Abdul Hafidh Wentzell, a former Protestant Christian, climbs the Mount of Mercy alone
- 12.30 **Winterville.** A comedy about a small town in the American West

**BBC 1**

- 6.35 **Open University: Social Problems and Welfare** – Family Centre  
7.10 Joseph Wright of Derby Ends at 7.35
- 8.00 **News**
- 8.15 **Westminster.** A roundup of business from the Lords and Commons
- 8.30 **Daytime on Two:** The State of Training (f) 9.20 History File (f) 9.40 Who – Me? (f) 10.00 Storytime – Sam and the Box (f) 10.18 Music Time – The Cerebralism Test (f) 10.40 Job Bank – The Music Business (f) 11.00 Zig Zag 11.20 Teaching Today (f) 11.50 Help Your Child with Reading (f) 12.05 Landmarks Special Report (f) 12.35 Lifeschool – Into Adulthood (f) 1.00 The Ullster Way (f) 1.20 Bertha (f) 1.40 Landmarks – Buildings and Builders
- 2.00 **News and weather, followed by Storytime:** Sam and the Box (f)
- 2.15 **Westminster Programmes.** Northern Ireland: Catch of the Day
- 2.55 **Chris Searle's Summer Season: Punch and Judy (f)**
- 3.00 **News and weather, followed by Praline Bell (f).** (Coedek)
- 3.35 **Canvas – Venus de Milo.** The actress and writer Yvonne Mitchell tells the story of the famous statue (f) 3.50 **News and weather.**  
Regional news
- 4.00 **Motor Racing: Mexican Grand Prix.** Highlights of the Formula One race from Mexico City (f)
- 4.40 **Touch and Go: The Battle for Crete.** Every May in the Cretan town of Galesata there is a remembrance ceremony for the troops who fought for the island in 1941 (f)
- 5.20 **Def Leppard Energy 21.** In the list in the current series, Normski and the crew explore the club scene in Italy. Back in the studio, Incoignito perform their club hit "Always There"
- 6.20 **Cardiff Singer of the World.** First part of the biennial competition in which 25 competitors from around the world will try to impress a panel of judges chaired by Brian McLeister, managing director of the Welsh National Opera. The five preliminary rounds will be screened each night this week and the competition culminates in a two-and-a-half hour concert broadcast live from St David's Hall in Cardiff on Saturday



**Film tribute: the work of Dame Peggy Ashcroft (8.30pm)**

**8.30 Dame Peggy Ashcroft:** a tribute to the actress, who died on Friday, including at 9.10 a special showing of *Caught on a Train*, the 1980 award-winning BBC film drama

**9.30 Newsnight** with Peter Snow

**1.15 The Late Show: Face to Face.** Taking over the old John Freeman role, Jeremy Isaacs tries to get beneath the discreet charm of Sir David Attenborough (r) **11.55 Weather**

**2.00 Open University: The Victorian High Church.** Ends at 12.30am

BB-9

- 6.00 TV-am
- 9.25 Cross Words. Crossword game show 9.55 Thames News
- 10.00 Out of This World. Eric's Magic Touch. Chris (Steve Burton) cancels his prom date with Evie (Maureen Plannigan)
- 10.30 This Morning. Family magazine programme, including at 10.55 ITN News headlines, and at 11.55 Thames News
- 12.10 Rocks and Jim (?)
- 12.30 ITN News with John Suchet. Weather. 1.10 Thames News
- 1.20 Home and Away. (Oracle) 1.50 A Country Practice
- 2.20 Thames Help presented by Jackie Spreckley
- 2.50 Graham Kerr: Lobster Antics. Karr modifies his lobster pastry dish from the creamy, fatty *Gelting Gourmet* version 3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News
- 3.25 Families. Soap linking the north of England with Australia
- 3.55 Children's TV with Tommy Boyd. Winner 4.10 Cartoon 4.25 Round the Bend. At 4.40 Newsline. Children's documentary about a day in the life of Bootham School, Children's Hospital in Manchester
- 5.10 Bloodstains. General knowledge quiz for teenagers
- 5.40 News with Carol Barnes. Weather
- 5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Spreckley reports on two women's health issues: hysteria/cold and the menopause
- 6.00 Home and Away. (?) (Oracle) 6.30 Thames News
- 7.00 The Joe Longthorne Show. The comedian's guests are Kelly Moneville and the Fallacy Singlets
- 7.30 Coronation Street
- 8.00 Hope It Rains. Low-key Ennals-Larby sitcom starring Tom Monteith as the crusty owner of a seaside waxworks museum and Holly Aird as his truculent god-daughter. (Oracle)
- 8.30 World in Action. In Northern Ireland hundreds of people have received government grants to turn their homes into fortresses to ward off potential IRA attacks. World Action Investigates alleged 'mass droppings' and leaks by the Royal Ulster Constabulary in collusion with loyalist paramilitaries.



**On mannequins:** William Gaminara, Cathryn Harrison (9/10pm)

**9.30 Soldier, Soldier: Fun and Games**  
**9.40 C.O.D.E.** In Portia Hall, David Heald played Harold Nicholson, whose wife has an affair with another woman (Cathryn Harrison). In *Soldier, Soldier*, Heald plays an army major whose wife (the same Cathryn Harrison) has an affair with a rival company commander. As viewers relish these televisual cross-references, they may feel that Heald is in danger of being typecast as a cuckold.  
**10.00 The Last Days of Pompeii** The script is a shambles, contrived, with Heald's rival in love (William Gammara) happening also to be his adversary in the inter-company manoeuvres. But it does allow for the interlarding of the private and the professional which is at the heart of the series and sets up a framework for a further examination of the woman's role in a male-dominated world. *Soldier* may be showing signs of moving towards soap opera, but this is the last time we shall see Heald in a costume.  
**10.00 News at Ten** with Trevor McDonald and Julia Somerville. (Oracle)  
**Weather 10.30** Thames News and weather  
**10.40 Thames Special: A Question for London.** A studio debate on the arts in London, with guest Tim Rinton, the arts minister.  
**11.00 The Last Days of Pompeii** of the Last Day. With Tom Selby.  
**11.20 40am Sportsweek** with Peter Dinklage. Includes a Berlin Open.  
**11.30 Film: The Westerner** (1940, b/w). Gary Cooper's litigious cowboy and Judge Roy Bean (Walter Brennan) join forces to contain the battle between cattlemen and homesteaders for control of west Texas. A landmark Western, directed by William Wyler.  
**11.35 The Twilight Zone.** A science-fiction double bill. To *See the Invisible Man* (1957, b/w), a scientist finds a man who found guilty of the crime of "coldness". (r). In *Mary, Mary, Monksley*, a biological accident causes widespread blindness.  
**11.45 Film: Come Out Fighting** (1946, b/w). Another adventure for the East Side Kids, whose club is closed following a riot. Starring Leo Gorcey and Huntz Hall. Directed by William Beaudine.  
**11.50 News at 11** with Trevor McDonald and Julia Somerville. (Oracle)

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**5.00 The Channel Four Daily**  
5.00 **Schools**  
12.00 **Flowering Passions: The Flower and the Glory.** Anna Favour presents a guide to choosing and growing flowers in the garden (r) (Teletext)  
12.30 **Business Daily** presented by Susannah Simons  
1.00 **Seaside Street.** Early learning series (r)  
2.00 **Right to Reply.** Viewer Chris Makinda reports on BBC2's *The Real McCoy?* (r) (Teletext)  
3.00 **Filing (1958).** (b/w). Jilly comedy starring scene-stealers Sybil Thormike, Estelle Winwood and Kathleen Harrison as three old ladies who run away from an old folks' home. Sharp-eyed viewers may spot a youthful Richard Harris as one half of a courting couple. Directed by Cynil Frankel  
4.15 **Pete Smith Specialities: Football Thrills of 1938** (b/w). A short film from MGM showing highlights of the 1938 American football season  
4.30 **Fifteen-to-One.** Quick-fire elimination quiz with William G. Stewart  
5.00 **More Winners: Second Childhood.** Leta Stetter Weist, a series of drama plays made by the Australian Children's Television Foundation. A group of friends believe themselves to be the reincarnations of Henry Ford, Queen Victoria and Albert Einstein  
6.00 **The Costly Show: Rudy Spends the Night.** Boisterous sitcom about the Muxtable family. Rudy (Keshia Knight Pulliam) is entertained by her grandparents (r)  
7.30 **The Henderson Kids.** Australian drama series (r)  
7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Jon Snow. (Teletext) Weather  
7.50 **Comment.** A personal opinion on a particular issue  
8.00 **Brooklake.** (Teletext)  
8.30 **My Two Dads: Michael and Joey - Trapped in a Box.** Weak sitcom about two men who inherit a daughter. The Dads (Paul Reiser and Greg Evigan) get stuck in a lift on Thanksgiving Day  
9.00 **A Life Cycle: The Subjects of the latest documentary about couples torn asunder by politics have been filmed so that their identities are not revealed. You can understand why. The advice of the Rev Ian Paisley is: "Marry your own". Many people in Northern Ireland ignore him. In some parishes up to 30 per cent of marriages cease to exist after the Catholic Church divide. But the price is often high. Paisley can be hostile and so can priests and there is always the chance of a bomb under the car or a bang through the window. Tonight's film is about "Elaine", a Protestant, and "Seamus", a Catholic. He says: "I don't look on my wife as a Protestant, I look on her as my wife. My argus are on whether she has washed his hair, not about religion. If they have children their troubles could begin again. Grandparents have been known to arrange secret baptisms, to ensure that children join the right faith." (Teletext)  
10.00 **E.N.G.: A Brief Madness.** Canadian drama series following the lives of the tough news team from Channel 10, a television station in New Toronto, Ontario. (b/w) (r) (Teletext) helps the team expose a gym teacher who is selling veterinary steroids to the users of the gym. Involving Katz. (Teletext)**



**On the road to Khartoum: Kafi El Gabba, foreground (11 00pm)**

**11.00 Global Image: Kaffr's Story.** An award-winning documentary in which Karl El Gebba, a villager from the Nuba mountains of Sudan, confides his feelings as he travels to Khartoum to earn the money to pay for his bride's wedding gifts.

**12.20am Seaham Harbour: Lords of the Manor**  
● **CHOICE:** The presumed reason for demolishing this two-part documentary to the early hours is that it lacks a peg. There is no topical link, no anniversary to mark. But it is still a worthwhile piece of social history, which skilfully interweaves past and present to chart the rise and decline of a Durham mining community. Up to the early 19th century Seaham's main claim to fame was that it supplied the iron for the hulls of the world's first ironclad ships. In building the harbour and sinking three collieries, by the 1880s the town was exporting 400,000 tons of coal a year. It was the constituency of Sidney Webb, Ramsey MacDonald and Manny Shinwell. In recent years there was the miners' strike and a battle to save the pits. Local historians, and miners with long and

## ITV VARIATIONS

**ANGLIA**

As London escapee: 2:20pm-2:50 *Discovering Gardens* 8:10-8:40 *Tell Me That Again* 8:50-9:20 *Anglia News* 10:40 *Saturday* 11:10 *Film Night—Orson* 11:11 *Chart Soundworld Extern* 12:10 *Digest* 1:48 *3:35 Chart Show* 4:05 *6:00 Minutes* 5:00-5:30 *Pick of the Week*

**BORDER**

As London escapee: 2:20pm-2:50 *Some and Some* 3:00-3:30 *Anglia News* 8:10-8:40 *Away From Home* 8:45-9:15 *Anglia News* 10:40 *Saturday* 11:10 *The High Road* 10:40 *Countryman* 11:40 *The Low Road* 11:40 *Harry McGraw* 12:35pm *Film: Looked Up* 2:25 *Ten To Five* 2:50 *Pick of the Week* 3:30 *Anglia News* 4:05 *6:00 Minutes* 5:00-5:30 *The Guildenburgh Inheritance* 4:10 *H.M. Men and Her* 5:10-5:30 *Jos*

**CENTRAL**

As London escapee: 2:20pm *Right or Wrong?* 2:50-3:15 *Collaborating With Krumpholtz* 3:20-3:45 *Anglia News* 12:30pm *Centre* 1:30 *Presentor*: Cecil Bluck *H. 2:25 Pick of the Week* 3:30 *Entertainment* 4:10 *4:10-5:30 Minutes* 5:00-5:30 *Pick of the Week*

**HTV WEST**

As London escapee: 1:50pm *The Sullivan* 2:50 *All Music and Magic?* 7:20-8:15 *Simply Delicious* 8:10-8:40 *Anglia News* 8:50 *HTV News* 9:35-7:00 *What's On* 10:40-12:30pm *Film, Hollow Point*

**HTV WALES**

As HTV West escapee: 6:00pm *Wales at Six* 8:30-7:00 *Premiere*

**TSW**

As London escapee: 2:20pm *An Invitation to Remember* (Leslie Phillips) 2:50-3:15 *The Young Doctors* 3:20-3:55 *Home and Away* 5:10-5:40 *Families* 6:00 *TSW Today* 6:50-7:00 *Company* 10:40 *Anglia News* 11:40 *Licensed to Kill* 12:55pm *Film: Ironside* 2:25 *Ten To Fifty Film* 3:20-3:45 *Anglia News* 4:05 *6:00 Minutes* 5:00-5:30 *The Guildenburgh Inheritance* 4:10 *H.M. Men and Her* 5:10-5:30 *Jos*

**TVS**

As London escapee: 2:20pm *Comics to Coast* 2:50-3:15 *Top Gear* 3:15-3:45 *Anglia News* 4:05

**GRANADA**  
 12.20-9.15 *Some and Some* 5.10-5.40  
 The Musters Today 5.50-7.00 *Granada*  
 tonight 10.40 *Open Eye* 11.10 *Prisoner* Cell

## NE TEES

**LONDON** expected: 2,500m-31.5 The  
 11th Experiment 5:10-6:40 Home and  
 10:40 Northern Line 5:30-6:20 Flash  
 10:40 Mobility 11:10 Boreby My  
 10:40 The Sweeney 12:55m Film  
 inside 2:26 America's Top 10-2:50 Pick of  
 the Week 3:50m World Sport 4:50m  
 4:50 HR Men and Her 5:10-5:50 Jobs

**STER**  
 expected: 1,500m-91.5 The Men  
 and Button 5:10-6:40 Home and  
 6:00 Sky Tonight 8:30-7:00 Roman on  
 10:40 The Sweeney 12:55m Film  
 inside 2:26 America's Top 10-2:50 Pick of  
 the Week 3:50m World Sport 4:50m  
 4:50 HR Men and Her 5:10-5:50 Jobs

**SHIRE**  
 London expected: 2,500m-31.5m The  
 11th Experiment 5:10-6:40 Home and  
 10:40 Northern Line 5:30-6:20 Flash  
 10:40 Mobility 11:10 Boreby My  
 10:40 The Sweeney 12:55m Film  
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 the Week 3:50m World Sport 4:50m  
 4:50 HR Men and Her 5:10-5:50 Jobs

**C**  
 3:00m City Daily 9:25 Vegeta  
 300 Spectel 12:10pm Poval Y Cwm 12:30

Newyddion 12.40 Sio! Merthrin 1.00  
Sileon to Cioe 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 The

[illegible]

**SATELLITE**

[illegible]

**8.00 Buy and Sell (1987):** Robert and Maureen McDermott star in

[illegible]

**55am The Squeeze (1987):** A husband

**KEY SPORTS**

**100m** The Astra and Mercurio sealstalls  
100m Stella Arla Tereza 1.10 Australian  
100m Football 1.30pm Manchester Open  
100m — Live 6.00 A Day at the Beach 0.00  
100m 1.30m Power Hour Wrestling 0.00  
Open Golf 1991 Review 10.00 Stella  
Tereza Tereza 12.00 Live Open Golf Review

**GREENSPORT**

**100m** The Astra sealstall,  
100m Powersports International 6.00  
French Sport 8.30m Dog Tereza Classic Film  
10.00 Meet and Movement 11.00 Football  
100m Rallycross Championships 12.00  
Propose Nations Hockey Cup — Live  
100m Moto News 4.00 Handball 5.00

## USWA Wrestling 6.00 Formula One Grand

• **9 p.m.** *The Astra satellite.*  
 10:00p.m. *The Great American Gameshow*  
 11:15p.m. *Coffee Break 1.20p Everyday*  
 11:30p.m. *Who's Cooking Now 12.15p*  
 Sally Jessy Raphael 1.25p *The Cooking*  
 1.40p *Search for Tomorrow 1.40p The Edge of*  
 Night 2.05 *Europe Court 2.30p It's Your*  
*Lifestyle 2.40p The Tom-Town Show 3.10*  
*Reaffirm's Rules 4.00p You're Break 4.10*  
*Who's Cooking Now 4.40p The Great American*  
*Gameshow 6.00p The Self-Vision Break 6.10p*  
*Shopping Channel 6.00p Close 10.00p The Satellite*  
*Shopping Channel 12.00p Satellite*  
*London*

**NTV**  
 • **9 p.m.** *The Astra satellite.*  
 10:00p.m. *The Great American Gameshow*  
 11:15p.m. *Coffee Break 1.20p Everyday*  
 11:30p.m. *Who's Cooking Now 12.15p*  
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*Shopping Channel 6.00p Close 10.00p The Satellite*  
*Shopping Channel 12.00p Satellite*  
*London*

**RADIO 3**

2.45 **6.55-6.55am** Open University (FM only) 6.55 Weather: News  
**7.00 Morning Concert:** Wagners' *Overture, The Taming of the Shrew* (Symphony No 2 in F minor, No 3 in A flat); Mussorgsky (*Coronation Scars*, Boris Godunov)  
**7.30 News**  
**7.35 Morning Concert (cont):** Dvorák (*Overture, Othello*); Puccini (*O mio babbeo caro*); Brahms (*Violin Concerto*); Enigma Variations, Op 36)  
**8.30 News**  
**8.35 Composers of the Week:** Hector (Ballet music, *Idomeneo*, Rondo in C, K 373, *Reclutative* and aria, *A questo seno oh veni... O che il cielo*), Franz K. Haydn, *Violin Sonata* in G, K 373; Rondo in E flat, K 371)  
**9.30 Morning Sessions:** Wagner (*Die Liebesverbot*; *Phänomena* under d'Avalos); Purcell (*The Fairy Queen*, Act 2 - *Masque*); Elgar; Los Angeles Philharmonic; *Elgar* (*Sirrahom*) (Three Pieces from *Such Sweet Thunder*, Duke Ellington and His Orchestra; *William Walton* (*Three Pieces for String Quartet*), Britten (Fancie), Poulenc (Fancy); Harder (*Under the Greenwood Tree*); Rubbra (*Take, O Take These Lips Away*); *Three Pieces for Violin and Bass*); Bridge (*There is a Willow Grown Aslant a Brook*, *Bournemouth Sinfonietta* under del Mar); *Belgian Folk Songs*, and of *Elgar*, A. Chénierre, *Fantaisie at Choeurs du Théâtre National de L'Opéra des Pays d'Unter Pétrole*); Bernstein, art Iwain Kozal (*Three Songs*); West Side Story; *Katze and Manette* Labèque, pianos); *Tchakovsky Fantazy* *Overture, Romeo and Juliet*; *Vennia PD* under *de Mar*  
**9.45 Morning Concert:** The pianist plays *Prokofiev* (*Sonata No 5* in C, revised version), Debussy (*Etudes*, Nos 1, 8, 7, 11 and 5), Busoni (*Sonata in G minor*), Chopin (*Polka*); *Three Movements from Petruschka*, 1,000pm News  
**9.55 BBC Lunchtime Concert:** Orchestra of St. Pauls under John Neschke performs *Reverie* (*Pavane*), *pour une enfant douloureuse*, *Faure* (*Suite*, *Pékkas* (d' Mésandre), *Haydn* (*Sonata No 70 in D*)  
**10.00 News**  
**10.05 Concert:** *Concerto* by  
**2.45 Carnegie Archive:** The first of four programmes highlighting musical landmarks in the 100-year history of Carnegie Hall. *Beethoven* (*Leonora Overture No 3*; *New York* *Piano Concerto No 3*); *Wagner* (*Chopin* *Sonata*, Op 57); *Chopin*, art *Lesz* (*La Campanella*; *Ignace Paderewski*, *Op 28*; *Strauss* (*Ondine*, Op 21); *Chopin* (*SO* under *de Mar*); *Beethoven*; *Schubert* (*Duo in A, D 574*; *Fritz Kreisler*, *violin*); *Serge Rachmaninoff*, piano); *Saint-Saëns* (*Piano Concerto No 2* in G minor; *Artur* *Rubinstein*; *Philadelphie Orchestra* under *Ormandy*); *Chopin* (*Symphony No 1* in E minor, *From the New World*; *Cleveland Orchestra* under *Szell*)  
**5.00 The Italian Side of Bach:** In the second of six programmes, the organist David Sanger plays *Bach* (*Concerto No 2 in A minor*, BWV 552) and *Chopin* (*Sonata No 3 in B minor*, BWV 529)  
**5.30 Mainly for Pleasure**, with Janet Alexander, 6.00 News  
**7.05 Third Car:** Philip Prowse talks to Paul Allen about the production of *The White Devil* at the National Theatre  
**7.50 Berlin RSO** under Hans Zander performs *Dieter Schöbel* (*Composers, Versuche IV*); *Mozart* (*Piano Concerto No 15* in B flat, K 450); *Christian Zacharias*; *Mendelssohn* (*Symphony No 3* in G, 55, Scottish)  
**9.00 Poet of the Month:** Michael Longley reads a selection of his poems  
**9.10 Serenades to Music:** Sidsen Solids and the PO under Adrian Boutil perform Vaughan Williams's work  
**9.25 Bach (*Chromatic Fantasy* and *Fugue in B minor*, BWV 999) and *Chopin* (*Sonata in G minor*, BWV 1029); *Laura Dreyfus*, *viola da gamba*, *Elli Haugsand*, *harpichord*  
**10.00 Camden Jazz Festival:** Brian Morton introduces the first of three recordings from this year's festival which features a performance by an American trio at the Jazz Café, Jimmy Smith, saxophone, *Paul Ellery*, piano, and *Steve Swell*, bass, 11.30 News  
**11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week:** *Bach* (*Partita*)  
**1.00-1.30am Night School (FM only)** (except in Scotland)  
**2.30-3.10 Night School Extra****

**RADIO 4**

**Stereo on FM**  
**55pm Shipping Forecast 8.00**  
**News Briefing: Weather 8.10**  
**8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45** **1.55** **2.05** **2.15** **2.25** **2.35** **2.45** **2.55** **3.05** **3.15** **3.25** **3.35** **3.45** **3.55** **4.05** **4.15** **4.25** **4.35** **4.45** **4.55** **5.05** **5.15** **5.25** **5.35** **5.45** **5.55** **6.05** **6.15** **6.25** **6.35** **6.45** **6.55** **7.05** **7.15** **7.25** **7.35** **7.45** **7.55** **8.05** **8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45** **1.55** **2.05** **2.15** **2.25** **2.35** **2.45** **2.55** **3.05** **3.15** **3.25** **3.35** **3.45** **3.55** **4.05** **4.15** **4.25** **4.35** **4.45** **4.55** **5.05** **5.15** **5.25** **5.35** **5.45** **5.55** **6.05** **6.15** **6.25** **6.35** **6.45** **6.55** **7.05** **7.15** **7.25** **7.35** **7.45** **7.55** **8.05** **8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45** **1.55** **2.05** **2.15** **2.25** **2.35** **2.45** **2.55** **3.05** **3.15** **3.25** **3.35** **3.45** **3.55** **4.05** **4.15** **4.25** **4.35** **4.45** **4.55** **5.05** **5.15** **5.25** **5.35** **5.45** **5.55** **6.05** **6.15** **6.25** **6.35** **6.45** **6.55** **7.05** **7.15** **7.25** **7.35** **7.45** **7.55** **8.05** **8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45** **1.55** **2.05** **2.15** **2.25** **2.35** **2.45** **2.55** **3.05** **3.15** **3.25** **3.35** **3.45** **3.55** **4.05** **4.15** **4.25** **4.35** **4.45** **4.55** **5.05** **5.15** **5.25** **5.35** **5.45** **5.55** **6.05** **6.15** **6.25** **6.35** **6.45** **6.55** **7.05** **7.15** **7.25** **7.35** **7.45** **7.55** **8.05** **8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45** **1.55** **2.05** **2.15** **2.25** **2.35** **2.45** **2.55** **3.05** **3.15** **3.25** **3.35** **3.45** **3.55** **4.05** **4.15** **4.25** **4.35** **4.45** **4.55** **5.05** **5.15** **5.25** **5.35** **5.45** **5.55** **6.05** **6.15** **6.25** **6.35** **6.45** **6.55** **7.05** **7.15** **7.25** **7.35** **7.45** **7.55** **8.05** **8.15** **8.25** **8.35** **8.45** **8.55** **9.05** **9.15** **9.25** **9.35** **9.45** **9.55** **10.05** **10.15** **10.25** **10.35** **10.45** **10.55** **11.05** **11.15** **11.25** **11.35** **11.45** **11.55** **12.05** **12.15** **12.25** **12.35** **12.45** **12.55** **1.05** **1.15** **1.25** **1.35** **1.45</**

### KY MOVIES+

[illegible]

under his wing to protect her from the gang. Starring George Burns and Shirley

2:15 **Endless Band of Corsica** (1953, b/w): Robin Hood-style western about a bandit chief who sets out to champion the cause of the oppressed. Starring Richard Greene and Lee Van Cleef  
4:15 **Dirty Crockton, Indian Scout** (1959, b/w): A Dirty and the Indus Indian Scout. Red Hawk prettified a wagon train.  
6:15 **Deadline: Midnight** (1958): Leigh Lawson and Sherry Thayer play two women who investigate a murder linked to gun-running in West Africa  
8:15 **Deadly Game** (1968): A pregnant wife is the only person who can prevent the Apocalypse. Starring Demi Moore and Michael Douglas  
10:15 **The Descenters** (1968): Action-packed adventures about a British officer who goes undercover in India. Starring Pierce Brosnan  
12:00 **The Big Man** (1960): A higher agent to take part in an illegal gambling match set up by the ruthless, Starring William Linn Nelson and Joanne Whalley-Kilmer

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how long

# can you put off making a will?

(7 out of 10 people leave it too late)

Making a will is one of life's most important decisions. Yet it's one decision most people never make.

Too many wrongly assume all they own automatically goes to their next of kin.

Only by making a proper legal will can you be sure all your wishes are carried out in full.

In short, making a will is essential.

But it needn't be complicated or time-consuming.

With this in mind, Help the Aged has produced a booklet: 'Your Guide to Making a Will'. It tells you in plain English:

- \* Why you need to make a will
- \* How to go about it
- \* How to save tax
- \* How to make a bequest to your favourite charity

If you'd like a free copy of our booklet, or if you'd like to know more about Help the Aged's work at home and overseas, simply complete the coupon and return it to us today.

Or, if you'd prefer, call us on 071-253 0253 ext. 223.

Help the Aged, St. James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE.

Your  
GUIDE  
to making  
A WILL

— not valid without stamp —

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To: Help the Aged, Room 547/548, FREEPOST,  
PO Box 164, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey GU17 7BR  
Please send me the following: (Please tick boxes)

☐ A free copy of 'Your Guide to Making a Will'.  
☐ Information about Help the Aged's work.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_



**Help the Aged**  
THE TIME TO CARE IS NOW.  
Reg. Charity no. 272766







- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 21-25
- LAW 24
- FOCUS: INMARSAT 26,27
- EDUCATION 28,29
- SPORT 30-31

## Electricity sell-off to favour customers

IAN Lang, the Scottish secretary, is expected to favour customers of the two Scottish electricity companies when the basis for the allocation of shares is announced today (Martin Barrow writes).

A total of 2.2 million people subscribed for shares in the government's £2.88 billion offer for sale of Scottish Power and Scottish Hydro-Electric, which was just over three times subscribed.

Customers accounted for about 25 per cent of applications. Most are likely to receive shares, although larger applications will be scaled down.

Most non-customers are also expected to receive shares, but their applications will be scaled down more. Investors who did not pre-register are unlikely to receive shares.

The back-end tender, under which institutions were required to bid for 16 per cent of the shares because of the strong retail demand, attracted an average strike price of 123p, compared with a grey market price of 100p per each partly paid share. Dealings began on Wednesday.

## Call for more aid to USSR

The head of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development wants greater lending powers to hasten economic reform in the Soviet Union.

Jacques Attali, the bank's president, said that he favoured lifting restraints on capacity to lend money to the Soviet Union.

Statutes limit lending to the Soviet Union to 6 per cent of its capital of Ecu10 billion (£7 billion) each year for the first three years of operations. But M Attali said yesterday some of the bank's member states "would be happy if that constraint was relaxed sooner".

## Changes at Outhwaite

Richard Bloxham, chief executive of RHM Outhwaite, the insurance agency, is leading a group of 12 investors in the £125 million purchase of Laurence Phillips Ltd, a members' and managing agency. Mr Bloxham will then acquire the continuing business, but not the company or name, of RHM Outhwaite.

Richard Outhwaite will stay with the enlarged group for at least five years as a director and minority shareholder and manage the 1982 asbestos run-off for syndicate 317, which could cost names £1 billion.

## National saving goes into credit

Index-linked savings certificates helped put National Savings in credit last month. An inflow of £5.7 million was recorded. A total of £543.8 million was received during the month and withdrawals totalled £538.1 million. The net receipts are increased to £176.1 million when accrued interest is taken into account.

Despite falling inflation, index-linked certificates attracted £115.1 million.

## Plea for funds

Rolls-Royce and BMW, the German motor group, are seeking development aid from the German government to fund a joint venture aimed at building a family of small aero-engines. A spokesman for the companies said they had asked for no-interest refundable loans for about 30 per cent of the estimated cost of DM1.3 billion.

## CHANGE ON WEEK THE POUND

US dollar 1.6395 (-0.0330)  
German mark 2.9314 (-0.0273)  
Exchange index 89.8 (-1.2)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1978.3 (+21.1)  
FT-SE 100 2522.3 (+16.0)  
New York Dow Jones 3000.45 (+23.71)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 25093.89 (+58.78)

## Bulk buyers suggest lack of competition has driven up charges

# Firms protest at 40% rise in power prices

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A 40 PER CENT rise in bulk electricity prices has led to renewed accusations that leading power companies are exploiting their duopoly position to drive up charges.

Far from falling as demand declines from its winter peak, the cost of electricity in the pool, a "market" mechanism introduced a year ago during the build-up to privatisation, has continued to climb.

When the effects of transmission costs and the levy to subsidise state-owned nuclear power plants are added, the result is a rise of about 25 per cent in the cost of pool electricity to bulk buyers.

Mike Gibbons, energy policy and purchasing manager at Imperial Chemical Industries, Britain's biggest industrial power consumer, said: "What we see, in our judgment, is inadequate competition." He said ICI, which has protected most of its power purchases with forward contracts, still faced a 10 per cent rise in its £150 million-a-year bill.

ICI has made representations to "a number of parties", including the Office of Electricity Supply, about its concerns.

Some critics also suggest the generators are adjusting prices after deliberately keeping them down for a year to discourage construction of power stations by rivals. They say the generators now feel they can flex their market muscles because a 35 per cent increase in bulk tariffs set by British Gas will do the job for them.

The accusations are denied by the generators. Jim Lawton, director of corporate planning at National Power, the largest generating company, attributed the rise to an unexpected surge in demand, firmer oil prices, and withdrawal of some plant for maintenance. He said: "This is a pretty competitive market."

Architects of the privatisation structure argue that the rises are part of an adjustment process as the market-based system begins to reveal the true cost of generating electricity to consumers.

Forward contracts, used by large power buyers including the regional power companies, which supply domestic customers, are based upon pool prices. Fears are growing that all electricity users may face further substantial price rises next year.

During the past year, average prices in the pool have moved from 1.4p a kw/hour, or unit, to 1.9p to 2p a unit. In recent months, prices have continued to harden, instead of falling as electricity demand declines from its winter peak.

In the first quarter of this year, electricity demand fell as much as 10 per cent below expected levels and averaged 3 per cent below expectations. Weak demand from industry suffering recession was believed to be one cause.

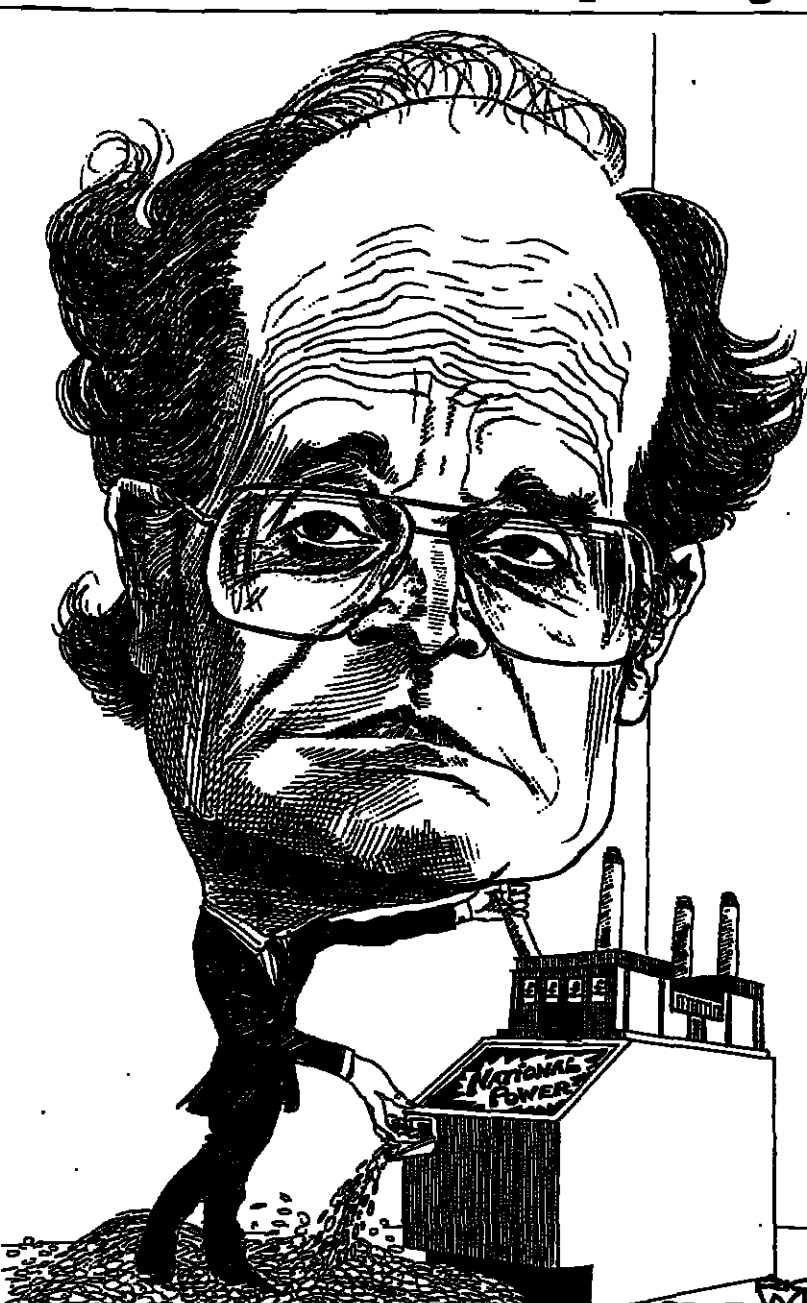
In the past ten weeks, however, demand has been 3 to 4 per cent above expectations on average, partly because of the unseasonably cool weather. The rise in demand has coincided with higher oil prices, which push up the cost of more expensive plants brought on stream at times of peak demand, and the shutdown of some gas waiting plants for maintenance work.

Many companies are reacting to higher prices with plans to build their own high efficiency combined heat and power plants. John Baker, National Power chief executive, has predicted that demand in the market served by the generators could stagnate to the end of the century. Previously, the industry had been expecting demand to rise 0.9 per cent a year.

The cost of coal for baseload coal-burning power stations rises by the rate of inflation minus 5.5 percentage points. The surge in pool prices is, therefore, likely to have led to a increased profit for the generating companies, although whether it is sufficient to compensate for weak demand earlier in the year remains unclear.

The two main generators have closed or mothballed up to 10 per cent of their UK capacity, focusing upon the plants that are most expensive to run. They argue that the fee they are paid under spot market rules to keep little-used capacity available is inadequate. They are likely to carry on closing plants that are more expensive to operate until the pool mechanism is adjusted to provide what amounts to a higher standing charge.

Seven groups are planning to build low-cost gas-fired power stations to compete with National Power and PowerGen in supplying electricity. The emergence of sufficient competing capacity to have a serious impact on prices may, however, take five years.



Jackpot now: John Baker, of National Power, says bulk-buyer demand will stagnate

## Bae works on 'hidden' jet

BRITISH Aerospace is working on a new Stealth fighter bomber which, for the first time, would be invisible to radar and infra-red detection. The military jets in service in America evaded Iraqi radar during the Gulf war because of the use of non-reflective materials and angular shapes designed to scatter radar beams. Scientists, including those from Britain's GEC, have already produced a scanner that can be fitted on to an aircraft and is capable of detecting both the increased kinetic heat created by an enemy aircraft's wings and tail as it flies through the atmosphere and the wake it leaves in the air.

This electro-optical equipment will be fitted to the new Europe fighter aircraft, which will enable the pilot not only to spot an intruder over vast distances but to identify the type of aircraft through a tiny but powerful computer memory. Recent advances in this technology are so impressive that BAE believes military jets in 20 years will have to be designed to evade this rather than radar.

A proof of concept model of such an aircraft is on display at the Paris Air Show looking like a trailing bicycle cape. BAE stresses the aircraft is still in the preliminary stages of design. Much work, it says, has still to be done in cooling the aircraft's surfaces during flight, masking the heat plume created by its engine and minimising its wake.

Diary, page 14

## Developers test Mayfair market

By MATTHEW BOND

IN THE normally genteel streets of Mayfair, central London, a battle royal is being fought by two developers determined to show that the top end of the London office market is alive and kicking.

Hostilities commenced last week, after contractors put the final touches to 84 South Audley Street and handed it to Arcona Properties, its Swedish developer. A few weeks before, Randsworth Trust, an American company, took receipt of its own Mayfair landmark, 25 Berkeley Square.

The two developers, and their respective buildings, are in undoubted competition. But they share one common challenge - to persuade a London property market, convinced that it is in the worst slump for almost 20 years, that an asking annual rent of £70 per sq ft is realistic.

At £70, the rent is within a pound or two of the highest London has seen for lettings of significant amounts of space. Coming when office vacancy rates have risen to 8 per cent, even in the normally tightly held West End, and are double that in the City, the letting of the buildings represents a considerable challenge.

Rupert Dodson, of Healey & Baker, one of the two property agents trying to find a tenant for the 51,000 sq ft of 25 Berkeley Square, believes the perceived gloom is inappropriate for the two buildings, whose size, quality and location makes them a scarce resource in the London property market.

Patrick Despard, managing director of Arcona Properties, said: "If a company says it wants to occupy 40,000 sq ft of prime space in this part of the West End, there are only two buildings that will suit. Given this restricted supply and the quality of the building we have developed, we think we're justified in asking for a top-notch rent."

Stephen Musgrave, a director of Randsworth Trust, echoes this confidence, but acknowledges that demand, even for the best offices, has



Tenants sought: Stephen Musgrave inside 25 Berkeley Square, Mayfair, at the weekend

waned since the heady days of two or three years ago. "Two years ago, we would have had a pre-letting on Berkeley Square. Inevitably, there must be fewer potential tenants than there would have been. But we have got absolutely the right product in absolutely the right place. We have seen a lot of interest."

## Puzzle of a £2 company in £2bn deal

# Hanson paid £14bn for own assets

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE folk at Hanson plc's Grosvenor Place headquarters have become tetchy about enquiries into the multibillion-pound restructuring in 1989. Though shareholders were not directly informed, Hanson balks at the description "secret". Being gruff and shy, however, is not going to dampen City enthusiasm for an explanation of the internal baring and selling spree that was, according to Martin Taylor, a vice-chairman, designed simply to marry the correct management with ownership.

Last week, the talk was of the movement of £9.5 billion of assets between subsidiaries. The company also placed a value of £14.07 billion on its entire asset portfolio in 1989, however, when one small subsidiary, Hanson Holdings (1), picked up the lot from other group companies.

HH(1) went on to make a profit of £1.37 billion on income from other

subsidiaries, which it paid out in dividends to Hanson plc and associates.

HH(1), a company with paid-up capital of £14 million, bought Hanson Consumer Ltd, Hanson Building Holdings, Hanson Foods, Hanson Industrial Ltd, Hanson Financial Services and Hanson Overseas Holdings for £14 billion. It is not clear whether Consolidated Gold Fields, bought in 1989 for £3.5 billion, is included in this portfolio.

Hanson plc seem to have started its reconstruction in 1986, when Morebeat Ltd, another subsidiary, paid almost £1.5 billion for a portfolio of subsidiaries incorporated in tax-free havens and destined to appear later on Hanson Overseas Holdings' books. That year, Morebeat had £32.411 turnover from an interest in a firm, other income of £100.1 million from dividends on group companies and £100 million profits. Morebeat stayed on the internal acquisition trail and bought

another tranche of subsidiaries for £1.96 billion in 1987. In 1988, it bought shares worth £380 million in another lot of group companies, sold £2.77 billion of shares in the mostly Panamanian companies and also issued £2.5 billion of unsecured loan stock to another subsidiary.

Not bad for a company with paid-up capital of £2.

By 1989, Morebeat had disposed of most of its subsidiaries but still managed a £715 million paper profit from the surplus of shares in group companies.

Martin Taylor said the reorganisation was something many companies undertook from time to time. Hanson's rejigging has been on such a scale that shareholders without the time to sift through 300 subsidiary accounts might be interested in the details of how it was done and how they benefited.

Lord Sharp on bids, page 23

## Devenish battle unclear as panel steps in

By MARTIN BARROW

THE outcome of the Boddington Group's £127 million hostile bid for JA Devenish was undecided last night, more than 36 hours after the formal close, following the intervention of the takeover panel.

At the request of Kleinwort Benson, Boddington's adviser, the panel granted an exceptional extension, giving time for "certain enquiries" to be made.

These are believed to centre on acceptances that Kleinwort Benson believed were committed to Boddington but had not materialised when the offer closed at 1pm on Saturday.

Neither pub company would comment on the final twist in the acrimonious contest between the two companies. But a spokesman for Devenish said: "We are delighted that the majority of shareholders has supported the company and we look forward to receiving confirmation that the offer has lapsed."

Boddington received acceptances in respect of 45.8 per cent of Devenish, falling short of an outright majority. This is in spite of securing the support of Whitbread Investment Company, owner of 15 per cent of Devenish, early in the contest.

A former director of Devenish committed his 3.5 per cent shareholding at the outset and Friends of Devenish Trust took cash in respect of its own 5 per cent stake. Boddington bought 16.9 per cent in the market.

Institutional investors, however, appear not to have been influenced by WIC's early declaration, staying loyal to Michael Cannon, the chairman. Late last week, Swiss Bank Corporation bought 1.2 per cent of Devenish at 211p, 1p above the cash offer, to show its support for the existing management.

The exceptional extension means the offer does not lapse but there is no additional time for acceptances.

The takeover panel hoped to resolve the impasse before today's extraordinary meeting of Devenish shareholders, called to approve a supply agreement with Whitbread and the withdrawal from brewing.

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# Toxic Crusaders woo City after runaway turtles

By MICHAEL TATE  
CITY EDITOR

THE man who turned mutant turtles into mountains of greenbacks, Thomas Chan, flew into London this weekend. His mission: to convince institutional backers that there is life after turtles.

Mr Chan, aged 40, is joint managing director of Playmates International Holdings Ltd, an international toy company incorporated in Bermuda and with a primary share listing in Hong Kong. This year, it acquired an American depository receipt facility in New York.

It was Playmates that, in 1988, took a Massachusetts newspaper cartoon strip and turned it into a worldwide children's craze. Within the first year Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles had scooped the No 1 spot in the \$1-billion American action figure market.

Largely on the back of the turtles' blockbuster sales — although there has been some support from the group's popular Dick Tracy models — Playmates' profits rocketed. The most spectacular growth was in 1989, when pre-tax earnings surged from HK\$20.6 million (at £1.63 million at current exchange rates) to HK\$255.9 million, last year they soared to HK\$1.66 billion.

The increase has elevated Playmates, founded in 1966 by Thomas Chan's father, Chan Tai Ho, still chairman of the group, into the super league of toy manufacturers, with a market capitalisation of more than HK\$4.5 billion. Mr Chan, aged 61, is a refugee from China, having sailed into Hong Kong with Thomas, then 11, and the rest of his



Hard act to follow: Thomas Chan's turtles have pushed him into the toy super league

family in 1962. Between them they still hold just over 53 per cent of the equity.

In its first ten years, Playmates manufactured for American and European companies, but in 1975 it began to produce its own lines. Two years later it set up its first operation in America. It went public in Hong Kong in 1984.

The turtles, however, are a hard act to follow. Inevitably some of the steam has already gone out of the North American market, which still accounts for 90 per cent of group turnover. Some of the slack is being picked up by increasing

demand from Europe. The turtles were British retailers' toy of the year last year. They are No 1 or not far off in France, Spain and Germany and will be launched in Japan this year.

Bigger hopes rest on the company's new products, such as the Waterbabies dolls which, when filled with warm water, are said to have the "cuddly warmth and real-life body responses" of a real baby. Then there are the "green-seamed" Toxic Crusaders, hideously deformed creatures of super human size and strength — and that is the

advertising copy. These toys, launched on the back of television series, are like the Waterbabies dolls, said to have had encouraging responses when test-marketed in America this year. They will arrive in Britain next year.

Mr Chan, who spent last week touring the American investment institutions, expects to see about 60 top UK institutions over the next two days, many of whom hold shares through their Asian funds. He will be hoping that after the spectacular success over the past two years, they will not be turning turtle.

## UK chiefs fare best in Europe on bonuses

By PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SENIOR managers' bonuses are the highest in Europe, according to a survey from the British Institute of Management.

The findings of the managers' umbrella body will add fuel to the criticism of the recent high pay rises for leaders of British companies, including (in Vallance at BT and Mick Newmarch at the Prudential).

An earlier BIM survey found that the pay this year of directors of larger companies, with more than £500 million turnover, rose 18.9 per cent over last year, more than double the level of employees' pay rises, with managers' pay up 12 per cent.

The BIM's new survey, of a sample of 122 companies each with a turnover of less than £25 million, shows that pay rises for the leaders of these smaller companies rose 9.8 per cent for directors and 8.5 per cent for managers.

The institute interprets the findings by claiming that small company leaders saw their real earnings, after inflation, tax and national insurance, shrink for the first time in eight years, by 0.8 per cent. The actual increases bring the average earnings for a British manager in a smaller company to £23,681, and for directors £47,126.

Smaller company managers in the Midlands, Scotland and East Anglia fared best, with rises of 11 per cent, while those in inner London and the Southeast fared less well. However, those in inner London still head the management pay league. Smaller company managers' average earnings in inner London are now £33,872, while those for directors are £57,618. Smaller company leaders in Yorkshire, Humberside and the North are at the bottom, with managers' earnings at £19,995 and directors' at £36,782.

The survey also shows that UK-owned companies offer more and better bonuses than other European firms. As many as 42.8 per cent of managers in British companies received a bonus, compared to 26.7 per cent elsewhere in Europe. Bonuses in the UK were on average £2,745, compared with £1,452 in other European companies. But all were behind the bonuses in American firms, where 66.2 per cent of managers received bonuses.

Company cars are declining among executives in larger companies, but the number of company car-driving leaders in smaller firms is increasing. Among directors, 98.6 per cent have company cars, compared with 94.2 per cent in the previous year, while among managers it is 73.4 per cent (66.9 per cent). Among chief executives, 74 per cent now drive a car worth more than £19,000.

Peter Benton, BIM's director general, said that directors were "showing restraint over personal salary increases".

## Why the risk factor outweighs rewards

GILT-EDGED

THE gilt-edged market is a rather gloomy place at present. The Bank of England is issuing stock aggressively and the outlook for the fiscal deficit means this will continue for the foreseeable future.

The government is well behind in the opinion polls; the political uncertainty all financial markets dislike is set to continue until well into next year. Moreover, in the past week a wobble in sterling seemed to defer a further cut in base rates, for a short while at least.

And yet, in the background, some key aspects of the economic outlook are improving and could continue doing so, leading to a decline in long-dated yields to levels not seen since the early 1970s.

Inflation is falling, somewhat belatedly, on all measures. But much more importantly, wage settlements are falling as well — a point emphasised by the CBI and indicated in the official series for underlying average earnings.

At present this may be no more than a reaction to the depth of the recession and, if that was all, it would not be worth getting excited about. But, with sterling in the ERM, the improvement in wage settlements and hence eventually in unit wage costs could go further and last for longer than normal cyclical arguments would imply.

For much of this year, monetary policy decisions seem to have been made with purely domestic considerations in mind. But as time passes, and as British manufacturers continue to lose competitiveness because of a deterioration in relative unit wage costs, the ERM constraint will become more binding.

Companies will have to choose between cutting wage costs or losing market share. Government will have to choose between keeping monetary policy tight and growth low, or devaluing within the system.

Eventually, as long as the

devaluation option is eschewed, inflation will converge upon the ERM average. When expectations have fully adjusted, monetary policy can be eased to reflect the fundamental improvement in inflationary expectations that will have taken place, and trend economic growth will be higher.

This process may take several years, but at the end lies the prize that has eluded British governments since the Sixties — a sustainably low inflation rate.

Why is the gilt market ignoring what would be such a profoundly beneficial development for sterling bonds? Two reasons: it doubts it will happen at all, and is afraid of what is pending in the meantime. The golden age will not arrive if ERM discipline is avoided — most obviously by devaluation.

Devaluation would ensure that the loss of competitiveness would be restored externally by a drop in the pound (as has usually been the case) rather than by a domestic adjustment in cost pressures.

All the main parties are committed to the ERM in general and to present parties in particular. All have ruled out devaluation as an option. And yet, in many investors' minds, there remains a doubt, in part associated with the possibility of a change in government.

Will a future administration accept possibly several years of slow growth and high unemployment, imposed by what will appear to be an overvalued currency, to ensure a lasting improvement in inflation? How investors answer this question separates those who are strategically bullish over the long term from those who think it is a lost cause.

In the short term, it is difficult to think of any development that would result in great enthusiasm for gilts, except, perhaps, a higher level of yields. The Bank needs to sell about £1 billion

of gilts a month and, while this is not an onerous burden either historically or internationally, it is in marked contrast to recent experience when the Bank has tended to be a buyer of stock.

Normal prudence as well as the problems associated with the timing of the general election mean the Bank will wish to push ahead with its funding as quickly as possible — tomorrow we find out the details of the next auction, on June 26. The expectation at present is that the auction stock will be Treasury 10 per cent 2001, or something very close to that in both maturity and coupon.

On all forecasts, including the government's, borrowing will be higher in the next financial year. This is not a short-term consideration. Nevertheless, the gilt market has yet to come to terms with this outlook.

The dip in yields at the very long end of the yield curve is a hangover from the days when the Bank was a buyer of stock and the arguments were about a scarcity premium rather than excess supply. At some stage there will need to be an adjustment in the yields of ultra-long if domestic institutions are to be drawn back into the market in a serious way — as they must be if the fiscal deficit is to be funded.

The real problem, however, with the amount of gilts that will be on offer, is that it ensures there is no need for even the most optimistic to back that view by buying gilts now.

Even if the long-term argument about a much lower level of inflation and hence of gilt yields proves to be correct, there will be plenty of opportunities to become involved. At the moment the risk/reward balance is not in favour of gilts, which means the market will struggle in the months ahead.

JOHN SHEPPERD  
SG Warburg Securities

## ERM 'will benefit' job growth prospects

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S membership of Europe's exchange-rate mechanism may prove highly beneficial for employment in the country in the longer term, an analysis of Britain's ERM entry suggests today.

But the study, carried out by the Employment Institute, accepts that ERM membership may cause "very considerable initial pain" over jobs.

The institute, which has cross-party support, says that ERM membership will prove "a significant constraint on growth and employment so long as the problem of poor competitiveness remains unsolved." But, it argues that the disciplines imposed by the ERM offer the "best hope" that this fundamental economic problem will be addressed. If this is done, the prospects of sustained growth in employment will be improved rather than hampered.

The report says that employment prospects are likely to be bleak for Britain inside the ERM if there is any steady erosion in international competitiveness through the growth of nominal earnings.

While the report accepts the possibility that ERM membership will alter substantially the behaviour of wage negotiators, it acknowledges that the evidence from other ERM countries is not encouraging.

□ The possibility of high unemployment stimulating employees to work for themselves is unlikely much to benefit overall employment, a separate study suggests today. Sussex University's Institute of Manpower Studies, in a wide-ranging study on self-employment in Britain, says that any such tendency for high unemployment to prompt a move into self-employment is outweighed in the longer term by the fact that areas of high unemployment tend to offer the poorest overall economic climate for the survival of new enterprises.

The study finds that men are more than twice as likely to be self-employed than women, and that self-employment is more likely among older, and especially among retired, people. Asians are much more likely than whites to be self-employed, while Afro-Caribbeans are much less likely to be self-employed.

## SEC casts shadow over \$3bn Time Warner call

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

DOUBTS were being raised over the weekend about the ability of Time Warner, the entertainment group, to pull off its planned \$3.5 billion rights issue.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is conducting a review of the issue after some fund managers condemned it, while others sought an investigation into the dealings in Time Warner's shares before the call was announced almost two weeks ago.

The review will take a month, four times longer than the normal approval of issues. Some analysts say that if Wall Street falls sharply during that time, Time Warner may have to pull the issue.

The group's shares are already down 25 per cent from their \$125 12-month peak, closing at \$94 on Friday, down 15 per cent since the rights issue was announced.

Time Warner is the world's largest media and entertainment company, with as-

sets that include Time magazine, film studios and Madonna, the singer.

The group was created by a \$14 billion merger between Time and Warner almost 18 months ago, saddling the company with more than \$1.1 billion of debts, of which \$4.3 billion comes up for repayment next year.

Time Warner's shares had climbed sharply earlier this year on speculation that the company was close to an important deal with a strategic partner that would put in \$2 billion to \$3 billion of cash and eliminate the need for a call. The talks have, so far, come to nothing.

The rights issue would increase the number of shares by 60 per cent. Shareholders are being offered 34.5 million shares at between \$63 and \$105 each, depending on how many new shares are taken up.

Fund managers have criticised the deal as being complicated, however, and as di-

luting the holdings of those who choose not to put in cash.

Goldman Sachs has suspended Time Warner from its recommended list over the "uncertain outcome" and shareholder confusion attached to "the very unusual and very large stand-alone transaction".

Christopher Dixon, analyst at PaineWebber, the securities house, says the review will generate scrutiny of Time Warner management and may exacerbate investors' negative reaction. Review procedures allow corporations to change any part of a share issue challenged by the SEC.

Time Warner says the company was not aware of any complaints about the activity in the company's shares, and the SEC's full review was neither unexpected nor unusual.

If the rights issue goes through, Merrill Lynch and Salomon Brothers, the investment banks, stand to collect up to \$179.7 million in fees.

## Bovis joins bid for HK port

From LULU YU  
IN HONG KONG

P&O, the shipping group that agreed to sell the Felixstowe container operations to Hutchison Whampoa, has plans to help develop a container terminal in the colony.

Bovis Construction Group, a P&O subsidiary, has joined an international consortium to bid for development of the 100-hectare Terminal 8 of Hong Kong's Kwai Chung container port.

P&O, which is considering a listing on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, has long expressed interest in expanding into the Far East. If the Bovis group wins the Terminal 8 contract, which is estimated to cost close to HK\$2 billion (£158 million), it could lead to further co-operation between P&O and Hong Kong's container operators.

Bovis's partners include Kumagai Gumi and Maeda Construction, the Japanese contractors, and HAM and Volker Stevin, the Dutch dredging companies.

## Gulf war helps to ground profits at BAA

REPORTING THIS WEEK

THE Gulf war and the effects of the recession on business travel will have severely affected the last quarter's profits at BAA. The airport operator, headed by Sir John Egan, the chief executive, and Sir Norman Payne, the chairman, reports today.

Passengers in the last quarter were about 14 per cent down on the same quarter last time, wiping off an estimated £20 million from pre-tax profits.

The current year is still depressed, suffering from the after-effects of the Gulf war. However, the trend appears to be improving, with passengers down by only 7 per cent last month, against a decline of 14 per cent in April.

Charles Pick, an analyst at Nomura Research Institute, said: "We are well over the worst." He expects final pre-tax profits to slip to £250 million, against £256 million last time. Market forecasts range from £250 million to £270 million. Nomura forecasts a decline in earnings per share to 36.5p (37.2p) and a dividend of 13.4p (11.5p).

News is awaited on the new pricing formula for aircraft landing and parking fees. BAA will want to recoup the revenue losses that will arise after the abolition of European Community duty-free sales next year as well as from heavier airport security costs.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is conducting its first five-yearly review since BAA's privatisation. The recommendations arising from the review should be published in August, enabling

the Civil Aviation Authority to decide the new pricing formula in about October.

TODAY

A surge in interest costs will take its toll on the full-year profits of BET, the industrial services conglomerate.

Bob Carpenter, an analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities, has pencilled in pre-tax profits of £220 million, against £322 million last time. Market forecasts range from £215 million to £220 million.

Earnings per share are expected to fall to 17.8p (28.5p), although the total dividend should be "at least" maintained at 13p.

In a bid to ease its crippling debts, the group has embarked on a series of disposals. BET recently sold Biffa, its waste collection and disposal business, to Severn Trent for £212 million.

Trading profits are estimated to have slipped to about £295 million (£312 million), but interest charges are thought to have surged to about £90 million (£40 million).

Interims: Electronic Data Processing, Gold Fields Coal, Treat.

Finals: BAA, Barmat Holdings, BET, Cranwick Mill Group, F&C Smaller Companies, Harrison Industries, Proteus International, Select Shop, Seton Healthcare Group, Volex Group.

Economic statistics: Retail sales (May - provisional).

TOMORROW

Charter Consolidated, the mining equipment and building materials group, is expected to report final pre-tax profits of about £76.5 million



Sir Norman: although the current year is still depressed, the worst is over for BAA

(£75.8 million), according to County NatWest WoodMac, with earnings per share of 45p (43.6p) and a dividend of 21p (19.5p).

County says the mining equipment division has suffered from uncompetitive exchange rates hampering exports to its main American market, while British Coal continues to order virtually no equipment. Quarries remain depressed. The group will benefit from its substantial net cash holdings, estimated at £130 million.

Interims: LPA Industries.

Finals: Charter Consolidated, Dartmoor Investment Trust, Melville Street Investments, Renold, Standard Bakers International, Tinsley Florist, Wellman.

Economic statistics: Index of output of the production industries (April), public sector borrowing requirement (May).

WEDNESDAY

East Midlands starts the reporting season for the regional electricity companies. UBS Phillips & Drew expects full-year pre-tax profits of £105 million, with earnings

per share of 38.3p and a dividend of 11p. Market forecasts range from £98 million to £112 million.

Interims: Gardiner Group, Sandoz Group.

Finals: Bimac Industries, Booth Industries, East Midlands Electricity, Equity & Law International Funds, Golden Hope Plantations, Mountview Estates, Security Archives.

Economic statistics: Construction - new orders (April - provisional).

THURSDAY

Final pre-tax profits at Dawson International, the Scottish

textiles group, are likely to fall to £25.5 million (£40.4 million), according to Barclays de Zoete Wedd. Market forecasts range from £25 million to £28 million.

Stakis, the hotels, casinos and nursing homes group, is expected to announce interim pre-tax profits down to about £1.8 million (£1.24 million), reflecting the absence of property gains.

Final net income at Premier Consolidated Oilfields, the oil and gas explorer, is expected to rise to £9.5 million (£7.3 million), according to County NatWest. Market forecasts range from £9.5 million to £13 million.

UBS Phillips & Drew expects Severn Trent, the water company, to announce final pre-tax profits of £250 million (£217 million pro forma). Market forecasts range from £235 million to £250 million. A dividend of 17.6p (14.9p) is expected.

Interims: Brockhampton Holdings, Channing Group, Electra Investment Trust, Lookers, Moorfield Estates, River Plate & General Investment Trust, Stakis, TSB Bank Channel Islands.

Finals: Dawson International, GE International, Penny & Gies International, Portsmouth Water, Premier Consolidated Oilfields, Severn Trent.

Economic statistics: Major British banking groups' monthly statement (May), provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (May).

FRIDAY

Interims: Brunner Investment Trust, Granger Trust.

Finals: CST Emerging Asia Trust, Office & Electronic Machines, Shelton (Martin), United Industries.

PHILIP PANGALOS

## THE TIMES

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# Democracy is the real issue in EMU

## ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

For an economist it is hard to understand the rows over European monetary union. John Major, with Margaret Thatcher's support, effectively rejected the economic objections to EMU when he took Britain into the exchange-rate mechanism.

Variable exchange rates are no longer used, or even tolerated, in economic management. Mr Major argued as far back as last October that "convergence" between Britain and Germany was already sufficient to tie the pound to the mark. Most faithfully of all, Mr Major has demanded, with some success, that Britain's industry and workforce accept the present exchange rate against the mark as a permanent fixture on the economic landscape, behaving in their investment decisions and employment practices as if the pound were irrevocably fixed and banishing all thoughts of currency adjustments in the foreseeable future.

If Mr Major and the other ERM members are to be taken at their word, then Europe is operating a system of permanently fixed exchange rates

already — after all, if the shock of German monetary union was insufficient to trigger a currency adjustment, it is hard to imagine what economic earthquake might be powerful enough to do so.

But all this is water under the bridge, at least for the Conservative party. Why then the fuss over EMU? The answer is politics, not economics.

There is one crucial difference between a full-scale monetary union and a simple agreement on exchange rates, like the present ERM or the Bretton Woods system that linked most world currencies to the dollar until 1972. A full currency union permanently deprives its member nations of the power to issue their own money. The political consequences of this are enormous, yet they have hardly been mentioned by either side in the EMU debate.

Depriving the British government of the power to issue money would not, as is often suggested,

merely prevent it from swindling its own citizens through inflation. It would also impose new limits on the British government's ability to borrow from its own citizens and would thereby subject all Britain's tax and public spending policies to the ultimate control of the pan-European central bank and to the financial investors of Europe.

The power to print money is the only real guarantee that lies behind a government's borrowing from its citizens. This is a point that politicians and even bankers seem only dimly to understand. In the Latin American lending spree of the Seventies, the bankers seemed to believe governments could repay their debts by raising citizens'

taxes. But history and economic theory both show there are upper limits on the tax burden that any nation will tolerate.

Brazil can always repay its cruzeiro creditors by printing more money, just as the Treasury in America and Britain can do at home. As a result, Brazil's domestic loans are always repaid on time and its domestic credit rating is never in question (although the value of its debts may be eroded by inflation, unless they are index-linked). But Brazil cannot print dollars and thus its dollar debts can fall into default. Well before such a default occurs, Brazil's ability to borrow from foreigners will usually be severely compromised.

In fact, since governments are,

in practice, immune from all the legal sanctions available against private debtors, investors face far greater risk when lending to foreign sovereigns than when they lend to private companies at home or abroad. This principle was well understood in the 19th century, when English judges described sovereign loans as "aleatory contracts". Aleatory is a word that bankers, stung by their recent dealings with British local authorities, might do well to look up in the dictionary. It means dice-player in Latin.

Consider now a government that joins a monetary union whose central bank it cannot control. It automatically loses its privileged borrowing status in its own domestic financial market, turning instead into an aleatory borrower from foreign investors. The government's tax and spending decisions, as well as its monetary policies, become dependent on the supranational central bank that alone can

reliably guarantee its debts. It may be, as some free-marketiers argue, that such restraint on government behaviour would be a positive benefit of monetary union. But history suggests a different outcome. Instead of bowing to the power of a pan-European financial market, it seems more probable that national governments would look increasingly to the pan-European political authorities for the guarantees that they alone could provide.

Europe would evolve slowly, but irreversibly, into the fully federated United States of Europe that the founding fathers of the Community always intended. That may well be what the people of Europe want and need. But how should this new European superstate be controlled — by elected representatives, by unelected central bankers or by anonymous financial markets? In Britain, at least, nobody seems to be asking these questions. Yet politics and democracy, not the cost of currency conversions for tourists, are what the debate over EMU is actually all about.

## Hanson adds to strain on bid policy

Lord Sharp says Hanson's stake in ICI provides a reminder of the need to reassess takeover rules

THE ICI/Hanson affair has once again opened up the debate on competition and merger policy as stated by successive secretaries of state for trade and industry and, in the context of EC competition policy, as laid down by Brussels and Sir Leon Brittan.

The Tebbit doctrine, continued by Lord Young and Peter Lilley, states that management should not be protected by government from hostile or predatory bids for their companies unless competition in the sector they operate in is significantly reduced to the disadvantage of the consumer, no other criterion is admissible apart from national security or defence.

The pure doctrine advocated almost with religious fervour by the DTI has, however, been subjected to external strain and internal criticism. When major multinational concerns based in Switzerland wished to make a hostile bid for UK companies there was natural indignation that it was "unfair" for UK companies to be vulnerable under the competition criterion when Swiss companies were held to be proof against counterbids. Further, when French state companies were contemplating acquisition of UK companies, even the DTI indicated displeasure at "nationalisation by the back door".

Lord Laing among others has forcefully expressed the view that the rules of the game favoured the predator rather than the incumbent management. The potential battle signalled by the acquisition of 2.8 per cent of ICI shares by Hanson may well lead this time to a fundamental re-examination at the highest political level, both here and in Brussels, of the current criteria governing a megabid.

Let me now refer to some specific issues arising from a potential bid for ICI (whether by Hanson or anyone else) and I declare a personal interest in that I am an ex-employee of ICI and have also been a principal in making a hostile bid.

Let me first make it clear that I hold no brief for the argument that Hanson should not be allowed to make a bid for ICI, I do however take a view that Hanson would be unwise to proceed with a full bid.

No management should be held so secure that they could not be challenged by an appeal to their shareholders for a change of control. (I have incidentally considerable reservations about the retention

by the government of golden shares in companies such as British Aerospace and Cable and Wireless for just that reason.)

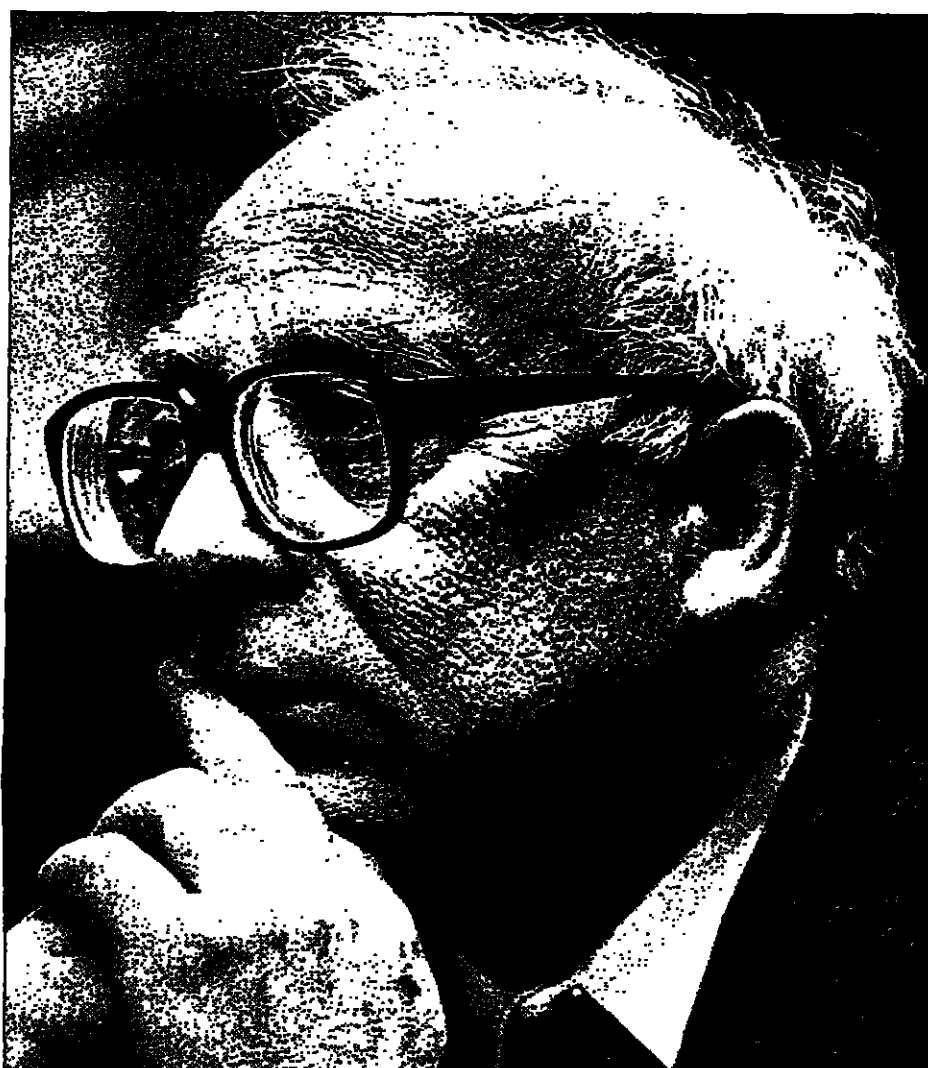
Indeed, I remember ICI making a hostile bid for Courtaulds in the early Sixties, and ICI could have acquired Courtaulds if they had offered an additional six old pence per share. It so happens that I am sure that Courtaulds have prospered far better under their own independent management, particularly since Sir Christopher Hogg has been chairman, than they would have done as a division of ICI. I do not think ICI would have been good at running a textile company (as distinct from chemical extraction of fibres), just as it is highly doubtful whether the undoubted financial genius of Lord Hanson and White extends to the management of a world-ranking chemical company with a strong orientation towards research and process engineering.

There are two principal critical issues which extend beyond the company balance sheet which the City and institutional investors (who are rightly concerned only with fund management criteria) currently take into account in assessing the merits of a hostile bid and counter defence: firstly, the balance of payments issue and, secondly, innovation and centres of excellence for graduate employment.

The present management of ICI under Sir Denis Henderson, building on the inspiration of Sir John Harvey-Jones, the previous chairman, has totally embraced the concept that ICI, as a world player in international chemicals, must have a major presence in overseas markets and secure more than half its turnover (and net income) from overseas. This emphasis on direct exports, including raw materials for its overseas operations, has been of major benefit not only to ICI shareholders but more particularly to the national account by improving the balance of payments both in direct exports and overseas income.

If such central direction and control passes to a foreign multinational or even to a financial UK conglomerate, the pattern and scale of manufacturing output and development could well change to meet new corporate objectives which a change of management, whether foreign or domestic, invariably brings.

Whether such a change will occur, and at what cost to the



Unwise to bid: Lord Sharp argues that Hanson's stake will be a good investment

national account, could be established only by an independent audit.

Then there is the tradition of ICI as a highly respected research and development company with a world-class record and reputation in innovative products and process techniques. ICI has over the years been a prime source of recruitment for graduates in a variety of academic disciplines: chemistry, physics, biology, agriculture and engineering. This country has

too few centres of excellence, too few centres of innovation, to meet the intensive competition from the US, Japan and Germany. True that ICI might well wish to restructure its operations, both in respect of product and geographical location (should not its fibres division be lived off to Courtaulds?) whether independently or under the threat from a predator, but the central linkage of science, both pure and applied, represented

by the ethos of ICI must and should be retained to fulfil the exciting potential of the talent streaming from our best universities and polytechnics.

Apart from the general issues of reciprocity, state enterprises and regional development raised earlier, surely the twin issues of export and science must also engage the concern of the government not currently encompassed by the single criterion of impact on competition? If there is some agreement on this, then

holders are asked to cast their vote. I am sure, however, that the DTI will be reluctant to accept such a responsibility; after all, it is simpler to rely just on a single statistic of effect on competition. But the acquisition of a major manufacturing company of world stature at the leading edge of technology cannot be left to the decision of fund managers, no matter how expert they are in managing the pension funds of other companies, whose pensioners incidentally would be very concerned if their own pensions would be subject to change of control.

My advice to Lord Hanson, whose common I respect very much, is to retain his 2.8 per cent investment in ICI but to go no further; it will be a good investment and serve to keep ICI on their toes. Equally, it would be good for Hanson plc if someone like Jacob Rothschild took a 2.8 per cent investment in Hanson to keep it on its toes against the distant prospect of my Lords Hanson and White losing their entrepreneurial zeal.

Lord Sharp, who retired as chairman and chief executive of Cable and Wireless last October, was a director of ICI Fibres from 1961 to 1964.

there remains the question of where lies the responsibility for this audit. For a megabid can we rely on Brussels? I do not think so. The more restrictive remit of Brussels, the better they will function. I would nevertheless put forward for consideration that in the case of megabids where the impact of such bids could well have an influence on the national issues I have outlined, a national audit should be published before share-

holders are asked to cast their vote. I am sure, however, that the DTI will be reluctant to accept such a responsibility; after all, it is simpler to rely just on a single statistic of effect on competition. But the acquisition of a major manufacturing company of world stature at the leading edge of technology cannot be left to the decision of fund managers, no matter how expert they are in managing the pension funds of other companies, whose pensioners incidentally would be very concerned if their own pensions would be subject to change of control.

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## Gnomes of Zurich consider end to 700 years of isolation

AFTER 700 years of splendid isolation, the Swiss are inching acrimoniously towards membership of the European Community.

The issue has become one of the most divisive in Swiss history, on a par perhaps with the controversy 20 years ago, when women were given the vote. Worse still, this divisiveness occurs on geographical lines. French-speaking and Italian-speaking Swiss, a third of the population and the least enthusiastic Swiss federalists, are mostly in favour.

The more traditionalist German-speaking cantons, three of which were the confederation's founding members in 1291, are against. If put to a referendum, the motion would be blocked, but those in favour are gaining support.

The controversy over membership is not an issue of Swiss attitudes towards Europe but a national identity crisis that has become a key theme in Swiss literature — whether political isolation and parochialism will continue to serve the nation as well as in the past.

Pro-Europeans say Switzerland is too anachronistic to survive on its own. They fear the prospect of fortress Switzerland surrounded by fortress Europe.

The sudden interest in Community membership stems from a material fear, not over isolation per se (after all the Swiss have been isolated for seven centuries) but over an isolation in which the country has to give up its lucrative free-rider status.

Switzerland does not have to put up with any EC interference, but has the benefit of the mark currency peg, and therefore indirect membership of the ERM, and free trade with the EC, which in 1989 accounted for 57 per cent of Swiss exports and 71 per cent of imports. Switzerland trades more with the EC than most member states.

The Community, however, is growing impatient and has threatened to derecognise Switzerland as an autonomous trading partner. Instead the EC prefers to deal with Efta, the six-nation free trade block of which Switzerland is a member. But with Austria and Sweden about to join the EC, Efta is disintegrating. Worse still, trade talks with Efta have been going nowhere.

The anti-European wing does not share this pessimism. They argue that the Swiss economy is geared towards only a few sectors — banking, insurance, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and food — in which Switzerland boasts some of the world's finest companies, all of which have long had a significant presence in the EC. If the EC became a fortress,

the argument goes, Swiss multinationals would be inside it. Little to gain, they say, but much to lose, if Swiss banks fell under EC banking rules and were made to abandon banking secrecy. Zurich, the heart of Swiss banking, would face a squeeze, which would also affect the overbanked economy, since banks account for 10 per cent of GNP.

Furthermore, the country would need to overhaul its political system. Membership would mean the loss of neutrality, the abolition of referenda, the introduction of VAT (only recently, for a third time, rejected by the public). Tax evasion would become a criminal offence and nothing would stop 40-tonne German lorries polluting the mountains.

There is an irony in Switzerland's dilemma in that its own history has many similarities to that of the EC. The oath of Rütli in 1291, which establish-

ed the "everlasting league", was signed only by three cantons, while the remaining 19 joined later, in what surely must have raised the spectre of a two-speed Switzerland. The country is multi-lingual, like the EC, with German speakers the largest group, like the EC. And finally, the job of the country's head of government is rotating, as is the EC presidency.

As Swiss politicians are beginning to think the unthinkable, some are reminded of Friedrich Dürrenmatt's play, *The Physicists*, whose protagonist, Wilhelm Messersmith, the inventor of a device capable of eradicating mankind, concludes that "what was once thought can never be unthought". Swiss membership of the EC has also begun life as a mere thought.

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU  
European Business Correspondent

## C&G INVESTMENT RATES

Effective from 17 June 1991

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	GROSS %*	NET %
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### CHETENHAM GOLD ACCOUNT

\$25,000 or more	Annually	10.60	7.95
\$10,000-\$24,999	Annually	10.20	7.65
\$1,000-\$9,999	Annually	9.00	6.75
\$100-\$999	Annually	5.00	3.75

### CHETENHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST ACCOUNT

\$25,000 or more	Monthly	10.12**	7.59
\$10,000-\$24,999	Monthly	9.75**	7.31
\$5,000-\$9,999	Monthly	8.65**	6.49

### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

\$100 or more	Annually	4.70	3.53
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### C&G FLEXITRESSA

\$100 or more	Annually	12.00% TAX-FREE	
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### LONDON SHARE ACCOUNT

\$2,500 or more	Annually	12.25	9.19
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### C&G GUARDIAN PREMIER SHARES

\$5,000 or more	Monthly	11.61**	8.71
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### C&G GUARDIAN PREMIER SHARES

\$2,500 or more	Quarterly	11.72	8.79
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### C&G HANITRESSA

(ANNUAL LONDON SHARE ACCOUNT - 12% TAX-FREE ON DIVIDENDS)

New Accounts no longer available	Annually	13.60% TAX-FREE	
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Effective from 2 July 1991

### C&G GUARDIAN SUPER SHARES

New Accounts no longer available	Half Yearly & Quarterly	12.00	9.00
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### ORDINARY INVESTMENT SHARES

New Accounts no longer available	Half Yearly	5.00	3.75
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OTHER ACCOUNTS: All other accounts are reduced by 0.5% Gross (0.375% net). Further details available on request.

\*Interest is payable gross to non-taxpayers subject to the required certification.

Otherwise income tax will be deducted at the basic rate, but may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers.

\*\*The gross monthly rates, when compounded, equal the gross annual rates shown above.

Rates may vary.

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## Burning query for Treasury

THE Treasury, it is whispered, is not having an easy time trying to replace Sir Terence Burns as chief economic adviser. An advertising campaign is said to have had a disappointing response, in spite of the lure of a £76,060 salary. Could it be that likely candidates such as Alan Budd, group economic adviser to Barclays Bank, and Gavin Davies, chief UK economist at Goldman Sachs, are wary of the prospect of an unsettling change of government? One possible rival who is clearly unimpressed by such talk is Simon Briscoe, chief economist at Midland Montagu, who was speaking at a City gathering on Friday on "Living under a Labour government". Those willing to take the chance should send in their applications by Friday.

SPURRED on by Norman Lamont, a psychiatrist has turned his attention to the perils of mobile telephones. Dr Jan Neelmeier claims that users are trapped between the need for exhibitionism and a sense of shame at phoning in public. The solution? Sell the telephone and pay for therapy with the proceeds.

### Out of stock

THE London Stock Exchange is having a fire sale. It is selling items from its shop, which has seen little trade since the gallery closed to visitors last year. Sweat shirts have been knocked down from £14.95 to £2.50 and a jigsaw puzzle is a

steal at 50p. A slight problem, however, is that they all bear the name of the International Stock Exchange, a title quietly dropped last month. But with a deficit of £5.1 million for the year to March, Peter Rawlings, the chief executive, needs all the help he can get.

### City at prayer

THE Lord Mayor, Sir Alexander Graham, made "moving ahead" his theme when he took office. He will have time for little else in the next few days as City Church Week, a celebration of the 40 churches in the Square Mile, progresses. After starting things off at St Mary-le-Bow this morning, Sir

Alexander may again surface on Thursday, for a procession through traffic-snarled Blackfriars. Whether he will have the energy for a choral evensong at St Bride's, Fleet Street, on Sunday, remains to be seen.

### Flying start

COMMUTERS arriving at Waterloo station today, are in for a treat — if they like flying, that is. For banks of computer games have been installed in the concourse to give budding aviators the chance to "land" a plane. And those who perform the best could be on their way to Heathrow airport for a spell on a full-scale flight simulator. The fun is part of a

campaign by British Airways and Diners Club to promote their new joint corporate card. "They wanted to get a simulator on to the platform but it was too big," says a spokesman. The promotion runs all week.

TIME, a group of charities that counts Brian "Mr USM" Winterflood among its members, is preparing for National Transplant Week next month. The highlight will be a fund-raising dinner in Whitehall that will stress the need for organ donations. The hosts say: "We do hope you will feel able to add a donation to help this splendid cause." What did they have in mind?

### LBC on hold

CROWN Communications, owner of the LBC radio station, has dreamt up a wrinkle on those dreadful backing tracks that play Edelweiss, or other similar "works", on electronic clocks when the telephone receptionist puts callers on hold. The unfortunate callers are immediately, and without warning, treated to whatever LBC may be broadcasting at the time of the call. Frantic callers have fought to get a word in edgewise while, for example, being lectured on the legal complexities of a long-running court case. Other callers have, on occasion, been given intimate, not to say somewhat unwanted or inappropriate, instructions on their love lives, courtesy of the radio station's sex advice phone-in.

JON ASHWORTH

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY













# Lift-off that brings the world together

A Delta rocket blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, earlier this year, carrying the latest International Maritime Satellite Organisation (Inmarsat) craft into orbit. The Inmarsat-2 is another step forward in the organisation's efforts to satisfy worldwide demand for mobile communications by telephone, fax, telex and data transmission.

The satellite provides a link for people who need communications on the move at sea, on land and in the air. As the £50 million craft was deployed over the Atlantic, ground officials joked that Inmarsat's name, if not its initials, might have to change. Inmarsat, once just a provider of maritime links, now also covers communications to and from aircraft, lorries and even hot-air balloons. "International Maritime, Aeronautics and Reporters Organisation" might be a better title, one official said, pointing out that many of the up-to-the-minute Gulf war journalists' reports came via Inmarsat satellites.

Other huge potential markets are opening up, including automated monitoring of the environment and pipelines, in which information, gathered in terminals linked to sensors, is beamed back to research centres and companies by satellite.

Olof Lundberg, Inmarsat's director general, says satellite navigation, for ships, planes and land vehicles, is another exciting development in which his organisation is expecting a role. Eventually Inmarsat could create a service for civil users free of the military controls surrounding existing systems.

Inmarsat was founded in 1979 at the request of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), which wanted to harness space to overcome the flaws inherent in conventional radio communications. Satellites achieve this by covering huge sections of the globe from vantage points 22,000 miles high, free from atmospheric interference and range limitations.

The recent blast-off marks the launch of its second-generation craft, and Inmarsat intends to have four new satellites in operation by next year. A third generation, of four more advanced satellites, has been ordered from GE Astro Space, of the United States, and Marconi Space Systems in Portsmouth, which will each be able to handle more than 1,000 telephone channels. They should be in orbit by the middle or late Nineties, linking with a global web of ground stations,



The first of four £50m satellites has been launched by Inmarsat to improve world links. Nick Nuttall interviews Olof Lundberg (left), the director general of the International Maritime Satellite Organisation

such as BT's Goochilly station in Cornwall, which connect with the public telephone and telex networks.

Dr Ahmad Ghais, the engineering and operations director says: "We believe this will give us the capacity we need, although we are constantly surprised by demand."

The Inmarsat-A terminals are still quite large devices, with 90cm antennae, and are installed on nearly 12,000 ships, transmitting voice, data and telex. The market is changing rapidly, however, fuelled by commercial demand for more safety, fleet management and passenger services. These demands are being met partly by the miniaturisation of terminals such as the new Inmarsat-C, which can be fitted neatly on to aeroplanes, vehicles and trains.

Soon terminals may even fit into

*"The next generation of four satellites should give us the capacity we need, but we are constantly surprised by demand"*

handbags and top pockets. Mr Lundberg says Inmarsat is studying options from communications companies, including Motorola, of the US, for pocket satellite telephone networks, promising worldwide coverage. Orbcom, another American company, wishing to offer a similar service, has launched an experimental satellite to test the technology.

How much of these potentially huge markets Inmarsat and its staff can claim will depend on its technical and business acumen. It will also depend on the way other satellite organisations see their role.

Several others operate globally or regionally, and private companies are

beginning to chip away at traditional preserves as markets are liberalised. Intelsat, the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation, appears content with offering fixed communications.

Intelsat's domination is being challenged in the Pacific, however, by several proposed new systems, including Pacstar, the Asia Pacific Satellite Company, and possibly Pan-Am Sat, a company already offering private telecommunications links across the Atlantic.

Orion, another American company, also has plans for fixed satellite links across the Atlantic.

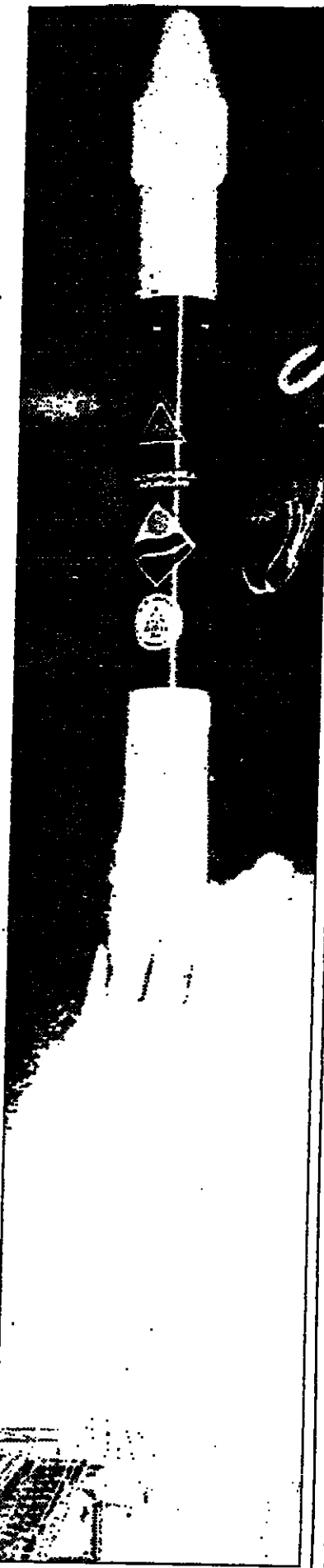
Eutelsat, the European Telecommunications Satellite Organisation, founded in 1977 to handle long-distance telecommunications over Europe, appears to be changing its role and moving towards more mobile services. The organisation is preparing to offer a service of messaging and positioning based on a system developed by Qualcomm.

Qualcomm, an American company, has been so successful that Geostar, another American company, which offers more sophisticated positioning services, has gone bankrupt. Locstar, a consortium of 29 companies based in France, intends to offer mobile and positioning services over Europe by 1992, although funding delays seem likely to push back the operating date.

Plans may have been made by other bodies, including Arabsat, which covers the Arabic-speaking world; Palapa, operated by the Indonesian government, and Australia's Aussat.

Some companies, including Inmarsat, are believed to be studying the market for satellite-delivered digital radio services, which would bring compact-disc quality to radio, as well as more stations.

Mr Lundberg is confident that Inmarsat can meet these new challenges in a field that has been something of a cosy club of satellite communications providers.



Blast off: an Inmarsat-2 goes up

## Conservative touch in reach for stars

Satellites are launched with tried and tested technology and can orbit for 12 years before they are shot into outer space

The technology behind the Inmarsat-2 satellites, the four second-generation craft which the organisation is currently launching, is tried and tested. The satellite company is more interested in seeing its £50 million investment safely into orbit with the minimum of fuss, so that it can offer a reliable and predictable service, than in breaking new and potentially risky technical ground (Nick Nuttall writes).

Consequently, the manufacture of communications satellites is a highly conservative industry. Typically, it can take between 28 and 36 months from the ordering of a craft through to its launch.

Time scales are being driven down, however, by too few contracts and vigorous competition between the main contractors. These include British Aerospace Space Systems, Dass, Aerospatiale, Matra and Marconi in Europe, and Hughes, General Electric and Loral in the United States.

Assembly of the two main components, the service and payload modules, takes about a year. The service module looks after the housekeeping functions of the satellite, controlling the power systems, keeping the craft pointed towards the Earth, maintaining temperatures and relaying the status of the satellite, while receiving instructions for modifying orbits and other critical manoeuvres.

Power is harvested from the ship's solar panels, which are deployed soon after launch. Each craft has the ability to sense its position in relation to the Earth and sun, to maintain position over the area it covers. Several gyroscopes, or reaction wheels, are fitted on board. By changing their speeds, ground controllers can alter the satellite's orbit when gravitational effects or minor buffeting of the solar wind shift its position.

John Humby, of BAE's Space Systems, says: "Eventually the wheels become saturated, and you cannot make them go any faster or reverse direction. So you then have to

fire the little gas jets to bring the satellite back pointing in the appropriate direction. Indeed, it is the firing of these which determines the in-orbit life of the satellite."

Another critical part of this module is the heat-control system. Satellites in geostationary orbits receive most direct sunlight on their east and west faces. The difference in temperature across a two-metre craft can be as high as 300C, whereas the optimum operating temperature for the critical electronics is about 25C.

Consequently, the hottest parts of the craft, components such as the radio-frequency amplifiers, are mounted on the cooler north and south faces, which are also mirrored to radiate heat into deep space. Pipes also conduct heat from local hot spots, and there are vents, open to outer space, next to the batteries. On-board heaters can be switched on if temperatures fall.

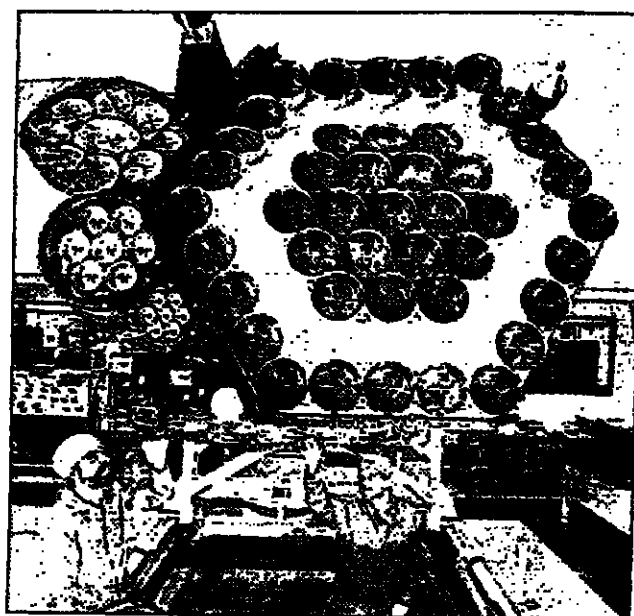
The second section of the satellite is the payload module carrying such units as the antennae and the high-powered amplifiers, which transmit and receive signals to and from Earth.

The entire craft, covered in a skin of carbon fibres glued to an aluminium or honey-combed Kevlar frame, on which the units are hung, is hermetically sealed for shipping to the launch site. Once it is fixed atop its launch rocket, technicians must wait until countdown before the final checks are made.

On separation, communications satellites are initially placed in a highly elliptical orbit called the transfer orbit. Ideally the peak of this orbit should be close to the final geostationary orbit of 22,000 miles in which the satellite will eventually operate.

Modern launch companies are now achieving this with a high degree of accuracy. Ariane, the European launcher, can place satellites within 1,000 yards of target.

The operating life of modern communications satellites has improved dramatically during the past 20 years, from about six months to about 12 years. As Inmarsat-2 craft near the end of their lives, a small amount of fuel is saved to send the craft into outer space, to avoid collisions with other satellites.



An Inmarsat-2 satellite under construction in Florida

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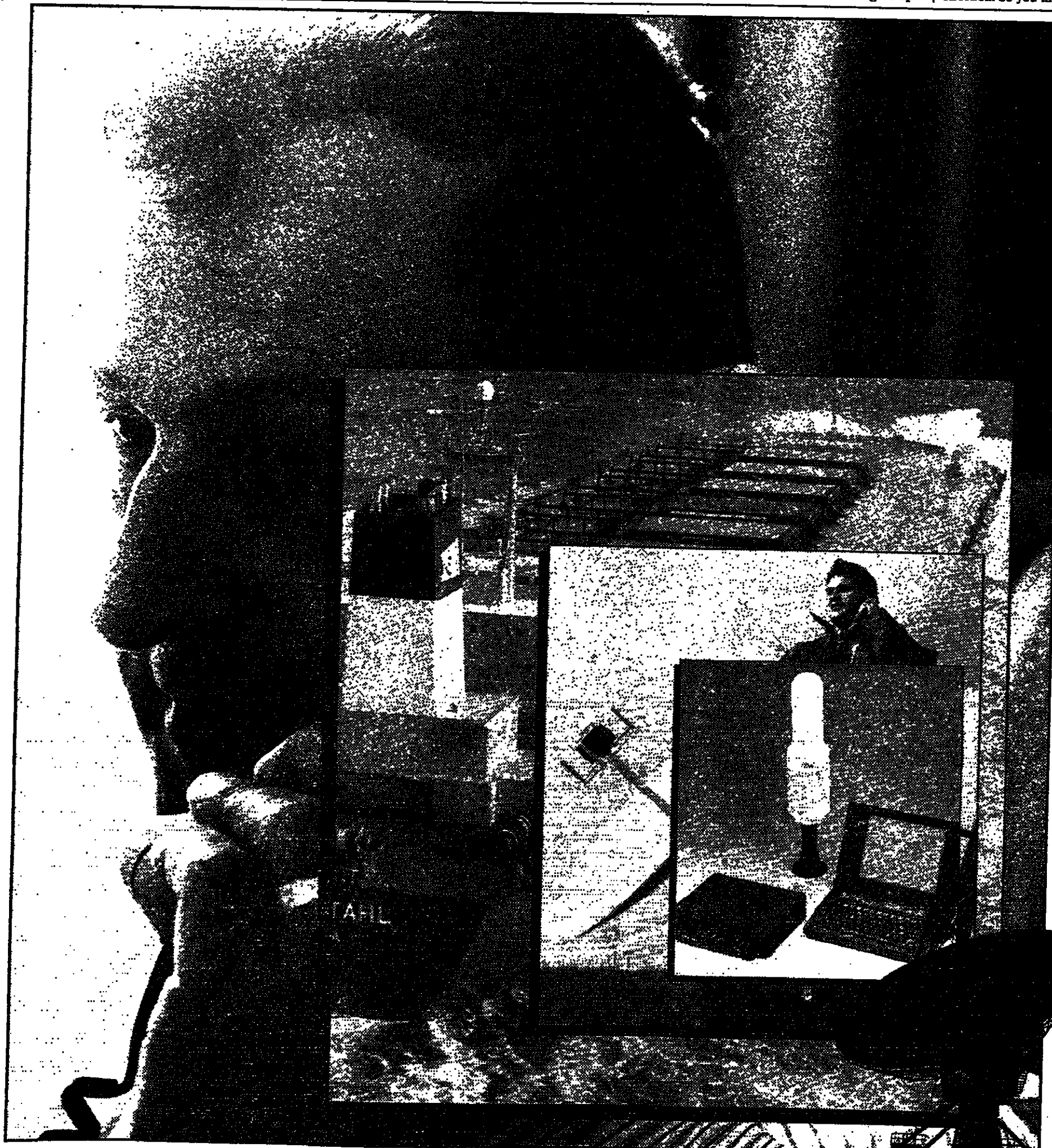
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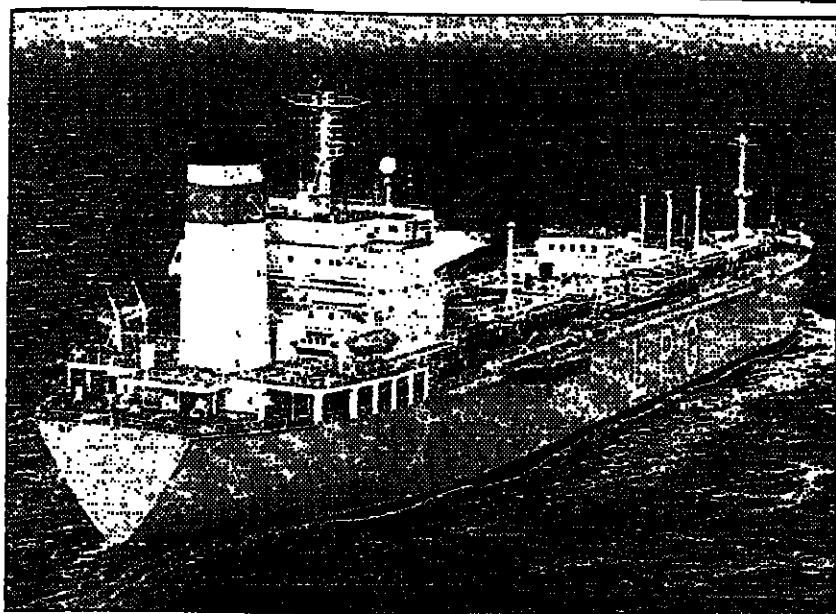
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At sea: rescue operations will be made safer. On land: journalists send reports from the Gulf



In the air: a pilot uses satellite communications. Future Inmarsat-3 satellites (impression below) will improve links



**B**y the end of the century a ship in trouble will no longer use the Morse code SOS, but could send a distress call via satellite, which will be picked up by land-based services co-ordinating rescues at sea. Vessels rarely sink without the wireless operator having a chance to send a distress signal, but it can happen. By February 1999 ships weighing more than 300 tons and passenger-carrying vessels should be fitted with new equipment which will send out an identification number unique to each vessel. The equipment will be demanded by rules covering the new Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). The rules, to be phased in from next year, are the brainchild of the International Maritime Organisation and national governments. Inmarsat's satellites, equipment and know-how are to play an important role.

The changes will fundamentally alter the face of maritime safety, by moving from a ship-based operation to one orchestrated by shore-based rescue co-ordination centres. It is likely to make Morse code redundant as the primary method of sending distress signals, as ship-based terminals, able to transmit voice, data, fax and telex at the push of a button, are installed.

An Inmarsat service called SafetyNet will be at the heart of the system. If a vessel runs into trouble in, say, the north Atlantic, a signal is transmitted over an Inmarsat satellite to Earth and automatically on to the rescue centre, which, in Britain, is at Falmouth, Cornwall. The centre will then organise the appropriate rescue service, as well as alerting ships in the vicinity by satellite. The system allows rescue centre staff to target a group of ships

within, say, a five-mile radius of the vessel in distress and, if they receive no answer, broaden the net, possibly to seven miles.

To improve the opportunities for rescue in the case of sudden sinkings, ships will be required to carry an emergency positioning indicating radio beacon, or EPIRB. One option is the unit developed by COSPAS-SARSAT, a consortium founded by the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Canada.

The other option operates at 406MHz and has been developed by Inmarsat for use via its satellites. This is attached to a deck and floats free after exposure to water or pressure. Once free, the unit, which will be equipped with a global-positioning satellite chip, will relay information in short bursts on such matters as its position, the identity of the vessel from which it came and the nationality.

Keith Thacker, Inmarsat's general manager of maritime services, says distress signals were intended to take priority over commercial satellite communications. Meteorological and hydrological organisations are also studying ways of using the Inmarsat network. Norway is testing a method of updating electronic, on-board charts via satellite after sinkings, or when ships and buoys are drifting.

Travel can be dangerous, whether by land, sea or air, and Morse code has been the traditional distress signal. But advanced satellite technology could make the world a safer place. Nick Nuttall reports

SafetyNet also allows weather centres to dispatch information on storms to groups of ships that may be heading into bad weather.

The systems also offer ship-owners the opportunity to keep in constant touch with their vessels and cargoes, so they can divert ships to more profitable ports if prices change, or commodities suddenly become available elsewhere.

**N**ext year passengers should be able to board a plane with a piece of hand luggage that allows them to transmit and receive data and telex via satellite from anywhere in the world.

Toshiba, the Japanese electronics company, has developed a transportable version of an Inmarsat-C terminal which, according to Bob Phillips, the deputy general manager of land mobile and special services at Inmarsat, is just 5.5cm thick and weighs 8.5lb.

The arrival of the transportable highlights the way in which satellite services are beginning to become more widely available for land users. "In the last 18 months to two years," Mr Phillips says, "there has been an explosion of growth in the use of land transportables, especially in remote areas."

In the aftermath of the Gulf war, after damage to the Kuwaiti telephone network, clean-up and reconstruction teams have turned to the bigger Inmarsat-A terminals for international telecommunications. These offer voice, as well as data, telex and fax services. Many heads of state now also have such systems fitted to back-up vehicles.

With the recent development of high-speed, 56 and 64-kilobyte data facilities, news-gathering organisations are now able to send high-quality voice reports via satellite rather than the crackly reports often produced by remote telephone or high-frequency radio. They also allow reporters to beam back still and moving video to newsrooms.

With the development of the

Inmarsat-C terminal, however, the possibilities are broadening into such areas as commercial haulage. Cabs fitted with C terminals enable a dispatch depot to send a message to a truck or fleet of trucks advising on anything from a change of delivery to a need to call home. Such a service has the potential for transmitting positioning information as well as automatically beaming back to home data on the state of the lorry's engine or the condition of the cargo.

Such terminals may increasingly offer the option of navigation on land. Makers are starting to install chips into Inmarsat-C units allowing them to take information from the string of American military satellites, called global positioning satellite (GPS), which allows users to plot their positions on electronic maps.

These were of vital use to the allied forces in the Gulf war, allowing troops to plot their desert positions instantly. Inmarsat is already using its resources to improve the precision of GPS from an accuracy of around 50

metres to between three and five metres. Now the organisation is studying ways in which a truly civilian GPS-like service might be devised.

"Our third generation of satellites will carry a navigation package which will be able to transmit signals identical to those of GPS," Mr Phillips says. The plan is to improve the military satellite services by plugging gaps in the existing coverage.

Inmarsat also has plans for monitoring and transmitting information on the health of the GPS network in such a way that if one of the craft malfunctions, civil navigation users on the land, at sea and in the air, will be aware of the failure in ten seconds and adjust their calculations accordingly.

**S**ingapore Airlines has announced plans to equip all its 50 long-haul airliners with a satellite telephone system allowing passengers to make calls thousands of feet up in the air. The system, which uses communications equipment developed by Racal Avionics of Britain, is being promoted by the Skyphone consortium, comprising British Telecom and the telephone companies of Norway and Singa-

pore. Other airlines are preparing to offer satellite communications on their routes, provided by either Skyphone or the two rival consortia, Satellite Aircom and one run by Comsat, of the United States, and KDD, of Japan.

The consortia may be different, but the satellites through which the signals will travel exist by courtesy of Inmarsat.

Aviation telecommunications are still in their infancy, and the organisation foresees great strides in this area of mobile communications. "To a large extent aviation had not had the benefits of very good communications," Guntis Berzins, the general manager of Inmarsat's aeronautical division, says.

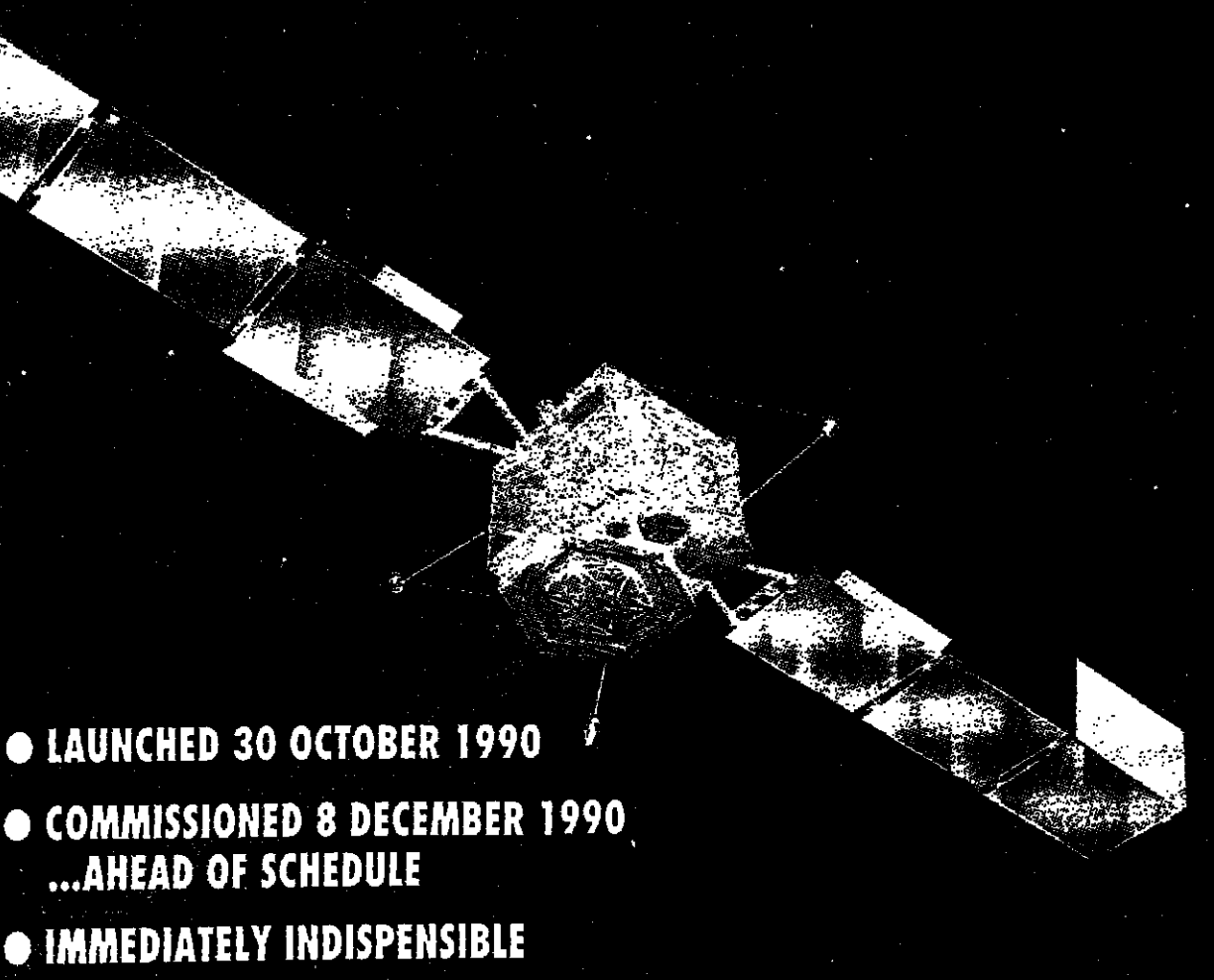
It is in the realm of safety that satellite communications are arguably most significant, particularly in the area of air-traffic control. Airlines currently rely on high-frequency radio for communications between pilot and air-traffic controllers, which is not inherently reliable or stable. Communications can be infrequent in some parts of the globe.

Satellite communications, on the other hand, are more reliable and stable, with signals being transmitted from almost anywhere in the world. In addition, they open up the possibility of more accurate and automatic position-reporting to ground stations, with the use of data messages rather than voice communications or radar.

This should allow air-traffic controllers to make more efficient use of air lanes, and satellite links will offer engineers the chance to monitor engine performances from ground sites. Meteorological centres will be able to receive up-to-the-minute data on conditions in the upper atmosphere from airliners.

Currently, 31 aircraft are operating with satellite communications.

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# Echoing the sounds of success

Speakers of minority languages across Europe are looking to the Welsh model to help preserve their cultures. Iola Smith reports

Hopes for the survival of Europe's minority languages are being pinned on a model developed in Welsh schools. Although there are 50 million speakers of minority languages in the 12 European Community countries, the EC realises that the classroom is where the long-term battle will be won or lost.

Wales realised this more than 30 years ago, and established a pattern of bilingual education that is the envy of other communities. Today 70,000 pupils are being educated in Welsh, and a further 200,000 are studying the language at school, so it is not surprising that committed multi-culturalists such as the Spanish are following suit. Nor is it surprising that countries hostile to mother-tongue tuition, such as France, are doing their utmost to keep minority languages out of the classroom.

The promoters of these cultures can take heart from the Spanish example, however, because until General Franco's death in 1975, Catalan, Galician and Basque were also outlawed in schools. Today, largely because of education, these three languages have achieved status and respectability.

As Joaquim Sampera, a Catalan teacher, explains, a dozen years ago it was a different story in Spain's Catalonia region. "We did not have enough Catalan-speaking teachers," he says, "so we had to establish an intensive in-service training programme. Now 85 per cent of staff use Catalan in class."

Another problem was integrating Spanish-speaking children whose parents had come from other parts of Spain and who faced the problem of studying in Catalan, a language they did not understand.

"We began an immersion programme in nurseries and primary schools for children aged three to eight," he says. "By 1987, 50,000 Spanish children had learnt Catalan this way."

In Catalonia and the Balearic

Islands, humanities and science subjects are taught in Catalan. The pupils are also taught Spanish, so by the time they leave primary school at 14, they are fluent in both languages.

Similar progress has been made in Galicia, where 2.5 million people speak Galician. For the past ten years, the language has been compulsory in all the region's primary schools, as both a subject and a teaching medium.

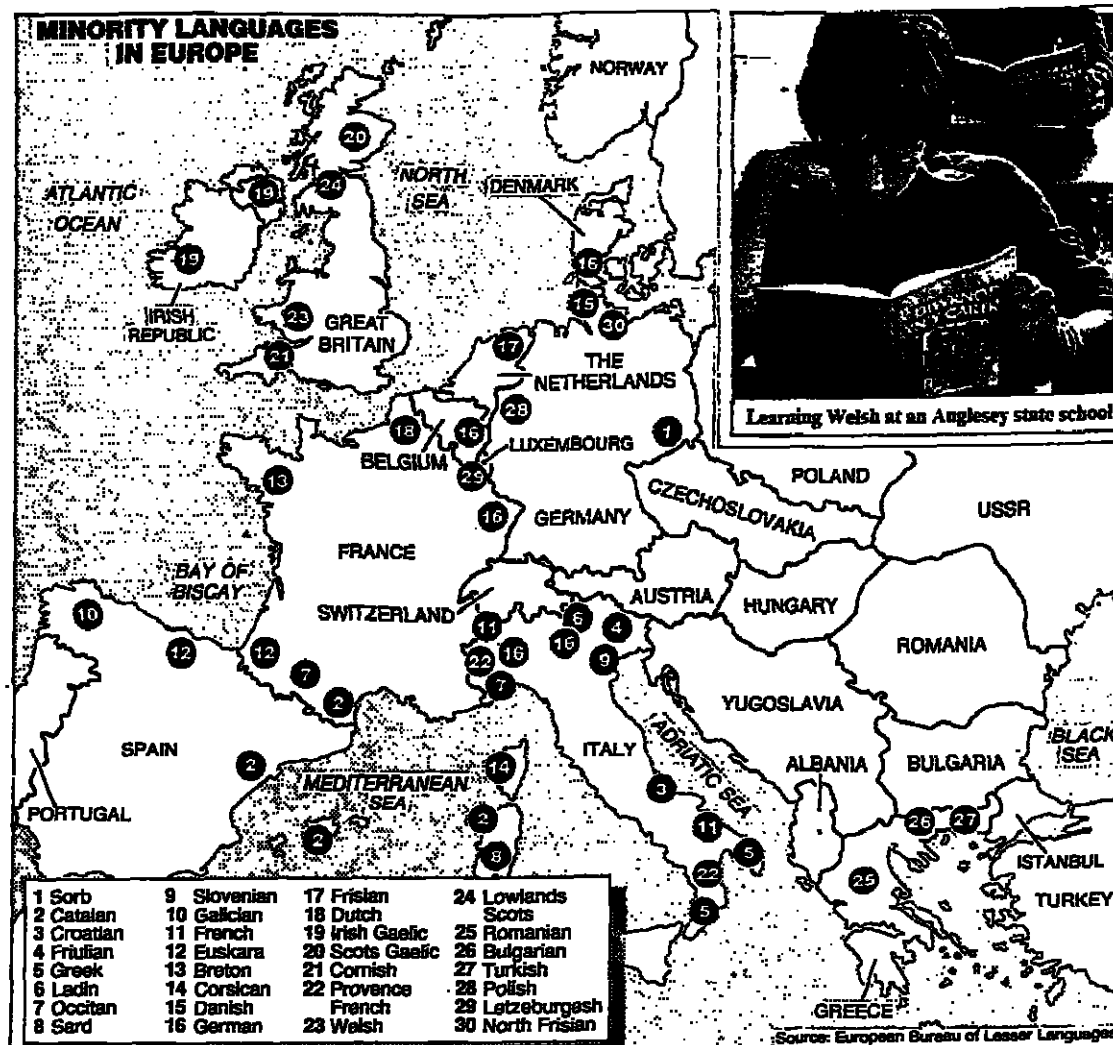
Manolo Portas, head of the 900-pupil Kelmiz high school, in Santiago, says: "In secondary school, at least two subjects must be studied in Galician. Pupils can choose science, as well as the humanities, because technical dictionaries have translated scientific terms into Galician. Fluency in the language is essential for university entrants in Galicia, so a third of our staff teaches wholly in Galician."

Although only 700,000, or 23 per cent, of Basques speak Euskara, they have established a strong network of Basque schools, fortified by a £45 million teacher-training programme. Half the region's pupils learn Euskara at the state primary schools. The rest are educated at the private *Ikastolas*, schools opened originally by parents to defy the language ban imposed by General Franco.

Since his death, the schools have grown in popularity, and are expanding to the secondary sector. To support the language's development in schools, more than 200 textbooks are published in Euskara every year. Drama is also used extensively as a means of introducing the language to children.

The atmosphere is very different in France. In 1972, Georges Pompidou, the then president, said: "There is no place for regional languages in a France destined to stamp its seal on Europe."

France's Occitan and Breton speakers have been fighting such a



resistance for 300 years. In the Eighties, they realised that if they wanted their cultures to survive, they would have to open their own schools. Parents who wanted their children to learn the ancient language of the medieval troubadours dug deep into their pockets to open ten nurseries and five primary schools at Beziers.

"Occitan is spoken by only a few old people, and 95 per cent of the parents who paid for the schools are French-speakers," says Patrice Bacou, a primary teacher. "However, they want their children to experience a culture that they them-

*'Until General Franco's death in 1975, Catalan, Galician and Basque were outlawed in schools'*

selves have lost. We provide intensive immersion programmes for the children, starting at age two and a half, so that by the time they leave primary school they can read and write Occitan as well as French."

Occitan medium education, however, is not available at secondary level, and pupils have to switch entirely to French.

In Brittany, the Diwan Association has opened Breton schools and campaigned for the language's inclusion in state schools. "Even-

tually," explains Henri Lecuyer, the administrator of the EC's regional development fund, "the government decided to introduce some Breton in schools. But this had little impact as lessons were scheduled for lunchtimes or after the school buses had left."

Despite François Mitterrand's promise that "the time has now come to open schools to the languages and cultures of France", the Occitans and Bretons are still waiting for action.

Fortunately for Frisian, the approach of the Dutch government to minority languages emulates the Spanish rather than the French example. This Teutonic language is spoken by 600,000 people in Friesland, in the north of The Netherlands and a small part of Germany, and is compulsory in the region's 500 primary schools. Frisian has yet to make an impact in the secondary sector, where only 5 per cent of pupils study it, but it is taught up to master's degree level at the universities of Amsterdam and Leiden.

Among the smaller minority communities are the Ladin and Friulians of northern Italy and the Sorbs of Germany. In Ladin-speaking Bolzano, pupils are educated trilingually, in the minority romance language, German and Italian. In

Friuli, children learn their native language along with Italian.

In eastern Germany, the Sorbs, a 60,000-strong Slavonic group of people, are also looking to education to preserve their culture. Since the reunification of Germany, they have been able to establish their own schools, and the Sorbian secondary school at Bautzen, near Dresden, is teaching the community's culture to 230 pupils aged 14 to 19.

As well as regional languages, some majority cultures become minorities in other countries. In the German state of Schleswig-Holstein, for example, 50 Danish schools provide Danish-medium education, and in northern Italy, German-medium education is available throughout the area of South Tyrol.

The most recent convert to minority language education is Belgium, whose first pilot project began last September, when 45 pupils from La Castel school, in Messancy, began an intensive programme of Letzeburgesch, the state language of neighbouring Luxembourg. This language has almost died out in Belgium, but pupils need to know it in case they wish to work in Luxembourg.

As the Belgians have realised, minority languages will have career as well as cultural benefits in the new Europe after 1992.

## We need teaching skills in schools, — not eggheads

Good honours graduates who cannot motivate pupils are wasting their time in the classroom, argues one teacher

The fashionable belief that improving the academic quality of teachers will improve the education standards of children is a seriously flawed idea. If teachers, and particularly heads, are worried about the quality of their professional intake, they are looking at the world through the wrong end of the telescope.

David Hart, the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, is wrong when he says that better-educated teachers are essential if education standards are to be substantially improved, that without them all else will fail, and that only an urgent increase in salaries will attract the best brains.

What graduates in their right mind, if they have done a good honours degree, would want to enter teaching, particularly in the beleaguered maintained sector? Honours graduates have shown, through the attainment of their degrees, a certain level of academic interest and excellence that will not be required in schools, even at A-level.

Good, able and perhaps gifted teachers are rarely good honours graduates. What teaching is about is the directing of young minds towards an aim. If we are honest, the aims in school education are slim. One has only to look at the GCSE courses to grasp this fact. Good honours graduates will not be using the study they did to manage and teach schoolchildren.

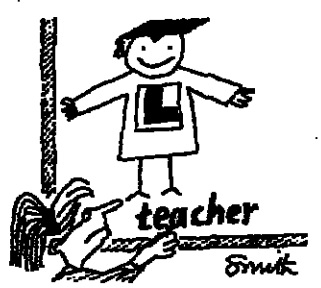
The improvement in the teaching service is obviously through the skills of the teachers to inspire, motivate, encourage and reward achievement. Britain's schools, however, lack the classroom managers, or, in other words, able teachers.

Poor behaviour, the lack of pupil belief in the virtues of classroom industry and undemanding courses of study are at the root of the unspectacular performance of

Britain's schoolchildren. Honours graduates will not necessarily improve this situation. The distorted thinking behind the suggestion that a large salary increase will suddenly attract recruits of high academic quality to the classroom needs urgent correction.

Money will undoubtedly attract some staff, but it will not attract the intellectuals we are led to believe will overturn today's shoddy standards in schools. Job satisfaction is the key to the success of teaching and, therefore, the improved education of children.

The honours graduates who have spent years of self-sacrifice developing academic prowess will find their achievements undervalued when they supervise lunch



queues of children, go to parents' evenings, which, if they are fortunate, half the mothers and fathers will attend, and have to work in an often dirty, noisy, violent and cynical environment.

Why do I write with such frustrated pessimism? I have taught extensively abroad and in Britain and have supervised teachers in training abroad and in Britain. I have seen enough to know that Britain's teachers lack not academic ability, but teaching ability. Only when this is put right will there be an appreciable improvement in the standard of education of Britain's schoolchildren.

CHRISTOPHER BANTICK  
The writer teaches at University College School, Hampstead, London

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Persons interested in applying are asked to seek full particulars from the Vice-Chancellor, The Old Schools, Cambridge, CB2 1TN.

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Applications, with details of career and publications and the names of three referees, should be sent to the College Secretary, St. John's College, Oxford OX1 3JP, from whom further particulars may be obtained. The closing date for applications is 23rd August 1991.

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Lewisham on the march: teachers, children and parents protesting last week at cuts in the borough's education budget and calling on the authority for more teachers

## Bitter classroom clash of '91

Struggling education authorities in London are at odds with the government over cash cuts, budgets and debts. John O'Leary reports

All the old bitterness of London politics has been thrown to the surface by the unrest that halted Lewisham schools last week and will bring Lambeth's education leaders before ministers on Thursday.

While Conservatives are using the disaffection to attack Labour, others are rekindling battles over community charge capping and the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA).

Michael Fallon, the schools minister, says Lambeth shows how a Labour government would run education. "In places such as Lambeth discrimination is a bigger subject than discipline," he says. "Labour voters in Lambeth are now begging the Tory government to intervene. They want their children rescued from socialism."

Stewart Hunter, who chairs Lambeth education committee, says: "Cuts to school and college budgets are a direct result of poll tax capping. We are committed to improving the quality of education, and quality costs money."

For many parents and teachers in the two boroughs, however, the disputes are mainly over competence. The charges are more of maladministration than political

extremism. The fear is that class sizes will rise and support services disappear unnecessarily.

Lambeth is spending nothing like the government's allocation for education. Money for schools is servicing debt charges built up while education was still in Ilea's hands. Much of Lewisham's £4.9 million overspending necessitating more cuts occurred because the borough miscalculated its teachers' salary bill.

In Lambeth and Lewisham there is no widespread concern about existing standards, but heads and parents are worried that the cuts will eventually lead to lower standards. Lewisham head-teachers supported last Thursday's strike by staff, while in Lambeth the heads are preparing the case for government intervention.

Lambeth heads complain they still do not know their budgets for September, they often cannot get answers to requests for help or information, and support services are being run down.

Lambeth's long and largely unsuccessful battle against charge

capping has delayed decisions about cuts until late in the year. The education department headquarters staff are being cut by a third, the inspectorate and advisory services merged and 60 of the 1,590 teaching jobs lost.

The government's spending assessment should have given the education service 8 per cent more than last year, but the budget, a third of Lambeth's total allocation, was raided to help to maintain other services.

Lambeth's three MPs, who formed a cross-party delegation to Tim Eggar, the education minister, see some hope in the change of leadership in the ruling Labour group.

Sir William Shelton, a former Tory education minister, says: "The Lambeth administration has been atrocious, and it is only because the schools themselves are pretty sound that they have managed to cope. I hope things are looking up now. They cannot look down."

However, Mary Leigh, the Tory leader on Lambeth education

committee, says: "It is worse than Ilea. It is a complete mess."

George Varnarog, the head of Norwood school, attributes many difficulties to the loss of Ilea. "Advice and support that is vital in an area like this is gradually being whittled away, and the pupils are suffering," he says. "There has been a sharp and dramatic change as boroughs find they cannot afford to run these services separately."

Islington, considered one of the successes of Ilea's break-up, cut £5 million from its education budget to avoid charge capping, and is now trying to save another £1.5 million, mainly from support services and adult education.

Chris Adamson, the education committee chairman, says: "People should not underestimate the difficulty of setting up a new bureaucracy out of a large old one, especially when the government has taken £150 million out of London education. Just building up financial information on what

it costs to run a school has taken two years."

Shortage of information has been evident in Lewisham, where over-optimistic budgeting and a lack of control on spending allowed the 1990-91 budget to overrun by almost 5 per cent.

Jim Mallory, the Lewisham committee chairman, blames a shortage of resources and teething problems. He says: "We are confident that the resourcing and staffing levels we have given the schools will be sufficient for them to continue to provide the sort of education we would wish to see for our pupils, although we appreciate that things are not getting easier."

The real surprise may be that more of the new London education authorities have not gone the same way. The Ilea legacy has made the transition difficult, and spending plans have had to be pruned. The difference may lie in the rapport established with teachers and parents.

Mr Adamson says: "We have had our ups and downs, but a relationship has been built up between officials and heads. When that breaks down, as it appears to have done in Lambeth and Lewisham, then you have got a problem."

### NOTICEBOARD

## Chinese double

THE first seven students, one man and six women, holding joint honours degrees in Chinese and management studies will graduate from Durham University this month, having spent a year at the People's University of China in Peking.

The new graduates had their year in China brought to an abrupt halt in June 1989 after the Tiananmen Square massacre. The following year's students were placed in Taiwan but relations were resumed with Peking last September.

Students spend the second year of the four-year course studying in the morning and working for a Western company in the afternoon.

Robin Smith, the chairman of the board of studies in business management at Durham business school, says: "Britain has enough accountants. What we and other Western countries will need in the 21st century are more internationally minded specialists for trade, diplomacy and good relations between peoples and governments."

an extra 200,000 places, says Matthew Taylor, the party's education spokesman and MP for Truro.

Many local authorities would like to give such a service but are prevented from doing so because the government provides too little money, he says. A Liberal Democrat study of 61 local education authorities published yesterday showed that 54 per cent of England's local education authorities planned, but could not afford to increase, provision for under-fives.

The survey shows disparities between areas. Top of the list were the Labour-controlled authorities of Walsall, which provides nursery education for 91.2 per cent of under fives, Salford (83.6 per cent) and South Tyneside (81 per cent). The least provision was found in the Conservative authorities of West Sussex (9.1 per cent), Kent (12.8 per cent) and Bromley (15.1 per cent). In the regions, the north came top with 67.87 per cent and the southeast bottom at 25.06 per cent.

### History gift

ALL 16 secondary schools in Tower Hamlets, east London, will be given a "dock chest" containing slides, photographs, a video, tapes, maps, a dock hook and examples of goods, such as spices, teas and silks, imported through the old London docks (pictured below). The package is part of a joint education programme from the London Museum in Docklands and sponsored by a property company.

The 2,500 pupils will also be given a copy of a GCSE textbook on the history of East India trade. "We believe the responsibility for higher education standards should, in part, be shouldered by those companies that are creating the area's wealth," says Robin Tassell, the managing director of NCC Property, which has provided £6,000 over two years.

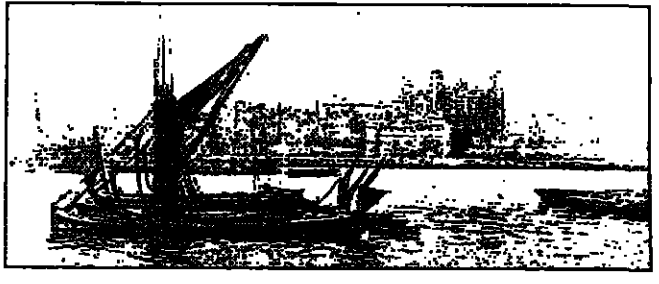
DAVID TYTLER

### On-off job

DAVID Brodie is about to be appointed to a job that may soon not exist. He is due to be confirmed as the new general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, which is having merger talks with the much larger Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association. Mr Brodie, aged 47, is a British Steel industrial relations manager and a former chairman of the Scottish Parent Teacher Council.

### Liberal pledge

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Further details are available from: The Clerk to the Governors of Allyn's School, c/o Dulwich College, London SE21 7LD to whom applications must be returned by the 10th July, 1991.

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Salary scale (under review) within the range £10,000 to £18,285. Application forms and further particulars are available from Personnel Administration, Doncaster College, Waverdale, Doncaster DN1 3EX. Telephone: 01924 322122 Ext 201 or 203. Closing date for applications is ten days from the date of the advertisement.

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The Queen's University of Belfast

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Closing date: 10 July 1991.

#### MATHEMATICS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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Tenable from 1 September 1991 or such other date as may be arranged, the teaching of mathematics methods to PGCE students will be the successful applicant's most important duty. Contributions to research in mathematics education and to IT programmes (including those in mathematics) in the School will be required. Applicants must have an honours degree in mathematics or a related field. Mathematics teaching experience in secondary-level schools is required, as is experience in the use of IT in teaching. A professional qualification in teaching or a background in psychology, sociology or related field is desirable.

Closing date: 10 July 1991.

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Applicants must have a good honours degree and have either at least two years working in an information management environment in the public or private sector or appropriate experience of information management information to university level. They should preferably have a relevant higher degree or professional qualification and specific experience of one or more of Business Systems, degree or professional qualification in teaching, a higher degree and/or teaching experience of a wide range of pupil abilities is desirable.

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Further particulars (please quote ref: 91/1) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, The Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT7 1NN (telephone (0232) 245133 ext. 3044 or FAX (0232) 324944).

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Salary Scales: Lecturer: £10,089 - £18,285 (under review) Senior Lecturer: £18,285 - £22,068 (under review)

Applications for job share will be considered. Details from Personnel Section, Suffolk College, Rope Walk, Ipswich IP4 1LT. Tel: (0473) 255885, Fax: (0473) 230064. Closing date: 5th July 1991.

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# Where sport replaces anger with hope

By ALIX RAMSAY

WHEN Dr Adrian Whiteson started as a medic in the 1960s with a wife and baby to support, living in a two-roomed flat, his wife bought him a poster of two soaring seagulls. The caption read: "You can if you think you can."

Today, as a private medical practitioner with plush offices in Wimpole Street and as the chief medical officer of the British Paralympic Association (BPA), it is a motto he still holds dear. The BPA is gearing up for the Paralympics in Barcelona next year with Whiteson as one of

the driving forces behind its campaign to raise funds and awareness.

"We want the best team we can get out there, prepared by the best coaches and provided with ample money," he said. "Britain came third in the medal table in Seoul with a small team run on a shoestring budget. For Barcelona we are trying to raise £1.2 million to give the athletes every advantage."

To Whiteson the disabled are just sportsmen with special needs, not special cases who cannot compete.

"I look at them as sportsmen with a disability. If they were athletes before they were disabled why shouldn't they

be athletes now they are in a wheelchair? You can adapt most sports for the disabled and the ideal is total integration. Why shouldn't there be sport for all?"

But while the reality of able-bodied and disabled athletes competing on equal terms may be years away, change is coming. At the next Commonwealth Games the disabled will compete at the same time and in the same arenas as the able-bodied, although in a separate competition.

"The tide started to turn for the disabled in Seoul," Whiteson said. "People became aware of the athletic ability of the disabled. The athletes don't want charity, they want

to be accepted for what they can do."

All that costs money. Whiteson must advertise the cause in order to make money, but to advertise you need money. But Whiteson, working on the tightest of budgets, is cautious. "I feel the money earmarked for athletes should not be spent on junkets."

Sport, and especially Tottenham Hotspur, is Whiteson's abiding passion. At 56, with eight marathons to his name, he is no armchair follower.

As a doctor, he has tried to combine his work with his first love, but his involvement with boxing would seem to sit uneasily with his role at the

BPA. His support of boxing stems from his belief that the discipline and training young people learn can help them in their life outside the ring. Whiteson believes his work with the BBBC and the BPA is totally separate but as he talks it is apparent that his philosophy is the same for both.

"Sport broadens the horizons of the disabled," he said. "They meet new people and they become normal in their own eyes as well as other people's."

"It can take years for someone to stop being angry with themselves and with the world for their disability but if you give them examples of success in their own peer group then it

gives them hope." Whiteson hopes that the Barcelona Paralympics will not only encourage more disabled people to become involved with sport but that it will show the able-bodied public what the disabled can do if given a chance.

"We can have the best, the athletes are there and waiting to be encouraged," he said. "I will not be satisfied until we come home with all the medals we deserve to win and the athletes feel they have had the best support we can give them. This is only the start."

After all these years, Whiteson still thinks he can. The athletes going to Barcelona know they can.



Whiteson: fund-raiser for Paralympic athletes

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# First bite at first light for a cast of thousands

It is the early hours of yesterday. The first water-colour wash of light silhouettes a familiar skyline, dissolves the blackness of space to palest blue, touches a few high, light clouds, turning the sky to opal.

There is no wind. Grasses droop lightly, webs thread dew. Wraiths of mist drift insubstantially over the water's surface. A vole rustles in the reeds, busying itself on some private, snuffle-muffling errand along tussocky margins. The sharp creek of a coot floats emptily down the bankside.

Ten yards away, in a clearing between the weedbeds, a red-topped float stands upright in the water, defining stillness. A rod lies facing it, conveniently raised on reeds. A hand hovers close by. Bubbles of released gas begin to prick the water's surface by the weeds. The water may cloud a little as the bubbles move nearer the centre of the clearing, indicating the progress of fish rummaging on the bottom for insects and snails.

And then the float stirs lazily, lifts a little, tilts over

to one side and slips down into the water through a hole of its own making.

This is how a significant proportion of Britain's two million coarse anglers will have decided their 1991 season should begin. They will be quite clear about the outline: through the months away from the water since last season ended, most will have filled in much personal detail, as well.

There will, of course, be other preferred ways of beginning the coarse fishing season, both for those who fish rivers and those who fish for species that need to be caught in other ways.

But the essential sequence of atmosphere and action is just the same and the sense of anticipation just as intense.

In Britain, anglers are marvellously blessed in the numbers and diversity of their coarse fishes — which is to say, in an unaccountably derogatory way, fish that are neither trout nor salmon.

Such is the fascination of fishes, so obsessed do many anglers become, that virtually every species — and

certainly each heavyweight species — has its own dedicated following: specialist groups and societies which produce a continuous outpouring of books and pamphlets; which organise "hot lines" on waters and conferences on technique.

The carp and the pike have the most obsessive followings, perhaps because they are by far the largest of the coarse fishes. Many carp anglers fish for nothing else, day or night, summer or winter. The same single-mindedness is true of some pike men. Both fish grow to around 50lb in Britain, the record for the carp being just

Time drags no more for the two million anglers eagerly awaiting the start of the coarse fishing season. Brian Clarke sets the scene as dawn broke on riverbanks up and down the country yesterday

over, that for the pike being somewhat under.

Dedicated carp and pike men, however, do not speak of pounds, like ordinary anglers. They speak of "tens", or "twenties" or of "a 32", perhaps even "a 44". Fish that fall into the last three categories are fish of other-worldly dimensions. Ordinary anglers have little

earthly hope of getting anywhere near such monsters. Among ordinary anglers it is quite something to know a man who knows a man who has caught a 20-pounder. At 30 pounds plus, an ordinary angler becomes deified through mere acquaintance with the capter.

For the specialist angler, the stark figures are simply

made-talk for the milestones of success. The specialist angler knows a quite different pleasure to that experienced by the ordinary man and woman who just "goes fishing". The ordinary angler — who, revealingly, is often known as "the pleasure angler" to the specialist and the competition man — is usually uplifted by catching anything. The specialist angler is fulfilled by achieving a worked-for aim, and then racks his sights higher still.

While there would have been some pike men out yesterday, most of them will wait until later in the season because the pike is in finer

fettle then. There would, though, have been tens of thousands of carp anglers out as the new season dawned. Indeed, many of them will be out now, some will have been out for a fortnight or more already, bivouacking by their favourite pitches, determined to get in first.

Not all the fish that some anglers pursue, are large. Indeed, one species that will be getting attention of a kind as the season opens is the smallest of them all, bar the minnow.

The bleak is a small silver fish, not unlike a small herring. It is a tiny thing, a sliver of a fish. A bleak could free-fall through a jam jar without touching its sides. And yet, to the bemusement, it needs to be said, of the vast majority of anglers, there will soon be some men — grown men — on the river bank fishing exclusively for them.

The reason is that the bleak is a great make-weight for competition anglers. It will bite, and go on biting, long after other fish have learned better. There is a time-and-motion precision about men fishing against the

clock for bleak; something windmillsque about the arcing of the rod and rhythmic swings of the arms.

In a match on the River Wye earlier this year, a man caught 1,453 bleak in five hours. Which means he bailed his hook, cast out, hooked a fish, brought it in, unhooked it, dropped it into a net for subsequent weighing (and apparently counting) every 12 seconds. Most anglers do not do this.

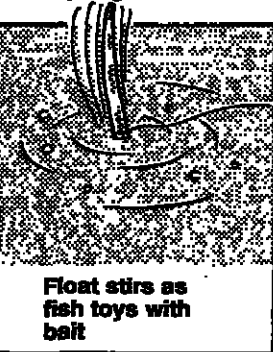
Between the big fish and the bleak there are many other coarse fishes for anglers to choose from. Each of them is fascinating in its own way, each is unique in its appeal to someone.

The perch, the roach, the rudd, the bream, the tench, the grayling, the dace, the barbel, the chub and the eel and the rest all offer specific and different and often complex challenges. All require different approaches if they are to be caught.

All of them have had those approaches plotted — and plotted a hundred thousand times over. For two million more anglers, time drags no



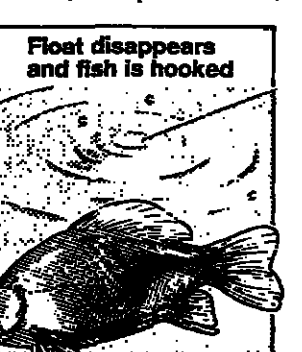
Bubbles indicate fish feeding on bottom



Float stirs as fish toys with bait



Float heels over after bait is taken



Float disappears and fish is hooked

## OLYMPIC GAMES

# Nagano's success heralds the start of IOC infighting

By DAVID MILLER

CURRENTS of unrest are running beneath the surface of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), apparent this last week during the election of Nagano as Winter Games host for 1998 and of Mario Vázquez-Rana, the president of the 166-strong Association of National Olympic Committees, as an IOC member.

Samamach, the IOC president, is at the helm of a committee that are not merely threatening to get out of control, but run in opposite directions.

In eleven years, Samamach has personally widened the circumference of the Olympic movement to unprecedented dimensions. The movement has now become a conglomerate of financial, national and personal ambitions that even the diplomatic handling of Samamach is finding difficult to keep in check.

On Saturday night, the IOC got away with it, just. If another three members had joined the 42 who were content to see yet another Games in North America, further severe damage would have been inflicted on the reputation of the Olympics as a global event.

In the third round of the voting for 1998, Östersund of Sweden, facing the obstacle of a third consecutive European Winter Games, polled a commendable 23, behind Nagano (36) and Salt Lake City (29). Sweden's support then divided 10-13 for the respective yen and dollar rivals, to give the compromise Japanese candidate a 46-42 majority, and the second Winter Games to Asia.

The decision is potentially helpful to Manchester's bid for the summer Games in 2000. The IOC may be reluctant in two years' time to vote for a return to the Far East and Beijing, strengthening Manchester's chance against Sydney and others.

The ten Östersund votes that switched to Nagano must have contained Europeans worried about Salt Lake following Atlanta's election last year: a hurdle that was

always bound to be stiff even for an exceptional American bid that would have been unchallenged in any other campaign. A hard-sell final presentation by Tom Welch, the chairman, failed, fractionally, to tip the balance.

Ill-will among candidates was heightened by a letter from Panasonic, the electronics company, to several countries urging support for Nagano. This was unauthorised by the bid committee and is to be investigated. Many disinterested IOC members, such as Tallberg, of Finland, and Erdem, of Turkey, considered the decision was politically important and correct, for the IOC's future.

There was almost a disaster for Salt Lake when, in the first round, they tied for last place with Aosta. The Latin American vote supported the mother country, voting for Jaca, in Spain, intending to help them through the first round before the serious voting began. Kevan Gosper, an IOC vice-president, said: "We must reconsider the system and not declare the voting figures."

Aosta went out on a revote, and long before the final decision was announced on television by Samamach, Franco Carraro, one of Italy's IOC members, and Arrigo Gattai, the president of the Italian Olympic Committee, were homeward-bound on a private plane. Such behaviour is negligent either they wish to represent their country's continuing sporting interests or they should resign.

The ten who stood up to be counted were six women members — Glen-Haig, the Princess Royal, Pijo Hagman, Princess Nora of Liechtenstein, Anita deFranz and Carol Anne Letherton — plus Philip von Schoeller, of Austria, Tay Wilson, of New Zealand, Prince Albert, of Monaco, and Pedro Vázquez, of Mexico. The abstentions were an eloquent testimony to the influence Vázquez-Rana exerts on many members and which some fear threatens the equilibrium of the IOC.

Glen-Haig: no reply

The election of Vázquez-Rana spotlighted the resistance among IOC members to their loss of independence; implicit in, for instance, the executive board proposal to include international federations and National Olympic Committee representatives in the host city voting. Seven years ago Samamach tried and failed, to have Vázquez-Rana, of Mexico, and Primo Nebiolo, the Italian head of athletics, made *ex officio* IOC members. Now the chance arose for Vázquez-Rana to replace the retiring Eduardo Hay, of Mexico.

Samamach believes the leader of all NOCs should be a member; the members consider he should not, precisely because of his vested interests in NOC affairs and the consequent conflict with independence.

A petition of the necessary 23 signatures demanding a secret ballot was mooted but never produced. Samamach had conceded he would have to have accepted it. When, with the president's prerogative, he put forward Vázquez-Rana's name to the meeting, Mary Glen-Haig, of Britain, asked if Mexican members supported the nomination. Nobody spoke. A visibly disgruntled Samamach then asked for a show of hands. Vázquez-Rana scraped through 13-10, with an embarrassing 60 abstentions, and scant applause when, incorrectly, he took the oath in Spanish. Executive board members are convinced a secret ballot would have defeated his election.

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Victory salute: Andrew Hodge, left, and Tami Grey, the 100 metre sprint champions, with Derek Pringle, the Essex and England cricketer

## MOTORCYCLING

# Rainey back in form

MADRID (Reuters) — Wayne Rainey, the world champion, returned to form yesterday to win the 500cc European grand prix in the sweltering heat of Madrid's Jarama circuit.

The Yamaha rider's first grand prix success in five races took him to within 12 points of Michael Doohan, of Australia, the championship leader, who was second. Wayne Gardner, of Australia, made his first appearance on the rostrum this season after finishing third.

Dave Smith, of England, sustained a broken leg, a suspected broken jaw, and concussion after crashing in the sidecar practice session.

Doohan, riding a Honda, led from the line but Rainey took the lead on the second lap of the 32-lap race and gradually pulled away to win by more than seven seconds. Rainey completed the 123.2-kilometre race in 51min 01.48sec.

Karl Schwantz, who started in pole position, seemed ill at ease on the replacement Suzuki bike he was forced to ride after a spill during the morning's warm-up.

Schwantz, who needed to win to stop the season becoming a dogfight between Rainey and Doohan, finished a disappointing fourth after promising so much in practice. Schwantz, of the United States, lies a distant 103 points to Doohan's 143.

Rainey, aged 30, from California, won the Australian and United States grand prix earlier this season.

The European grand prix, the season's eighth championship race, will be the Yugoslav grand prix in the calendar. The race was switched from the Rijeka track to Spain due to internal unrest in Yugoslavia.

The next race will be the Dutch grand prix in Assen, in two weeks.

RESULTS: 500cc (52 laps, 123.2km): 1, Wayne Rainey (USA), Yamaha, 51min 01.48sec; 2, Michael Doohan (AUS), Honda, 51:27.325; 3, Wayne Gardner (AUS), Honda, 51:27.325; 4, Karl Schwantz (USA), Suzuki, 51:34.728; 5, J. Kocinski (USA), Yamaha, 51:41.724; 6, J. Gardner (USA), Yamaha, 51:44.440. World championship: 1, Doohan, 143pts; 2, Rainey, 131; 3, Schwantz, 103; 4, Gardner, 81; 5, Kocinski, 60; 6, E. Lavigne (USA), Cagiva, 50. 250cc: 1, L. Cella (ITA), Honda, 44min 08.075sec (141.275km); 2, M. Brad (GER), Honda, 44:13.465; 3, C. Cardus (ESP), Honda, 44:19.055. 125cc (24 laps, 62.4km): 1, L. Caporaso (ITA), Honda, 41min 51.704sec (122.404km); 2, P. Gombi (ITA), Honda, 41:57.221; 3, P. Cent (GER), Honda, 42:00.300. World championship: 1, Caporaso, 114pts; 2, Gombi, 108; 3, Walschner, 55.

## EQUESTRIANISM

# Broome provides the most emotional scene of show

By JENNY MACARTHUR

JANET Hunter and Everest Lismannarow, the winners of the Windsor grand prix last month, continued their victorious season when they comfortably won the Alan Paul championship for the Queen Elizabeth II Cup for the third time in four years on the final day of the Royal International Horse Show at Birmingham yesterday.

In a rewarding result for her trainer, Ted Edgar, Jane Ware of the United States, a former pupil of his, finished runner-up with the only other clear round in the seven-horse jump-off and his 20-year-old daughter Marie, the European young riders champion, was third on Everest Sure Thing.

For Hunter, aged 27, who also won in 1988 and 1989, the win was further confirmation that her much-loved 16-year-old gelding — who was fired in 1989 following a leg injury sustained just before the 1988 Olympic Games — is back "better than

Despite being drawn second in the jump-off, they won by more than two seconds.

Hunter's comfortable win was in marked contrast to David

Broome's record sixth victory in the Midland Bank Championships for the King George V Gold Cup on Saturday which, at the age of 51, 31 years after he first won on Sunsalve, provided the most emotional scene of the show.

The former world champion, who hopes to be selected for the European championships next month, last won the cup on Mr Ross in 1981.

The odds looked stacked against him and the 12-year-old Lannegan. Alan Ball's small opening course produced 15 clear rounds. Ten of these went clear again to go into the timed jump-off. The competition, traditionally won on jumping ability, looked set to end in a gallop against the clock — the kind of jump-off Broome dislikes.

Eddie Macken, of Ireland, on his newly-acquired McBumble Bee, set the standard for the dramatic jump-off in store when he was clear in 37.98sec.

John Whitaker, although without his top horse, Henderson Milton, on which he won the Cup last year, also went clear on Henderson Gammon — some two seconds faster than

Macken. Nick Skelton then produced a sensational piece of riding on his reserve horse, the inexperienced Alan Paul Major Wager. Driving the seven-year-old down the final line of fences, they finished in what looked like the winning time of 34.58sec.

Broome's task was formidable. Peter Charles, who had watched Whitaker and Skelton, told him to "cut to the triple bar", fence four. He took the advice. Smoothly and cutting all the possible corners he jumped the fences at acute angles and, turning into the final line, was up on Skelton's time. "I was determined not to panic," he said afterwards. They jumped the last three fences fast and clear. Safely over the final fence he turned to look at the clock — and then punched the air in undisguised delight.

RESULTS: Queen Elizabeth II Cup: 1, Janet Hunter (USA), Everest Lismannarow (USA), 37.98; 2, Tazman Vardell (USA), 41.38; 3, Everest Sure Thing (USA), 41.38.45. Midland Bank Championship (for King George V Gold Cup): 1, Janet Hunter (USA), 34.58; 2, Alan Paul Major Wager (USA), 34.58; 3, Henderson Milton (USA), 34.58; 4, Henderson Gammon (USA), 34.58; 5, Henderson Milton (USA), 34.58; 6, Henderson Milton (USA), 34.58. Children's riding pony championship: Champion: Tabernash Wedding Grooms (USA); Reserve: Courtney Acton (USA); 3rd: Kenyon.

## Dramatic finale to Games

A SPECTACULAR basketball final brought the 43rd National Wheelchair Games at Stoke Mandeville to a suitably dramatic conclusion (Jane Wyatt writes).

Capital City Jazz took their first big trophy in a 54-40 win over the home team, LGS Jets. Many of the players have only a brief respite before leaving for the European championships tomorrow.

The eight days of competition were bedevilled by the moonson conditions, which ruined the chances of records being set in outdoor events such as archery and track races. However, four world records and seven British records were established in the field events.

Jim Harrison, from Hexham, shattered the F1 club world record by nearly two metres, with a throw of 19.6 metres. Harrison also set a world record in the F1 discus with a throw of 5.92m.

In the tetraplegic pentathlon, Isabel Barr scored 3,665 points to break the world record, and Terry Hopkins set a world best in class F5 in the shot, with a throw of 11.58m.

The swimming events produced many outstanding performances, with 30 new Games records, 19 British records and one unofficial world record.

The latter was in the 200 metres M6 women's individual medley, in which Beverly Gull, the world champion, achieved 3min 48.48sec. Gull had threatened to retire after the world championships last year, but with little more than a year to go to the Barcelona Paralympics, she seemed to have regained her appetite for competitive swimming.

## POWERBOATING

# Race drivers forced to sit out crossing

NECK-or-nothing offshore racing drivers, who are used to the bruising effects of rough seas, were prepared to tough it out in the race to Calais championship race at the weekend, but instead crossed the English Channel in the comfort of armchairs on a ferry (Bryan Stiles writes).

They had set off on a racing start from near Tower Bridge on Saturday, heading for Ramsgate then Calais, but the race had to be abandoned because of worsening conditions. A hastily-arranged 74-mile replacement race on the Lower Thames was given by Geoff Purves, of West Hoveley, in Hospitality Inn.

As the Calais to London leg yesterday was lost, too, drivers and mechanics took the Dover to Calais ferry for the Calais Yacht Club reception.

Results, page 35

## SQUASH RACKETS

# Play-off defeat fires an improved Poole

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

SENGA Macfie, of Richmond Town, and Becky Poole, of Edgborough Priory, confirmed their status as the country's leading club players with fighting five-set victories in the semi-finals of the Dunlop Champion of Champions tournament at Coventry Racquets Centre yesterday.

Macfie, aged 22, the 1987 Dunlop winner who has returned to the game after nearly two years off following a dominant junior career, defeated Pauline Nicholl, of Sunderland the defending champion, 9-3, 9-3, 8-10, 8-10, 9-2.

An improved Poole, aged 21, the Midlands champion, defeated the No. 2 seed, Rebecca Macree, of Brentfield, 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6, in an acrimonious 55-minute semi-final.

finals at Cannons City Club, in London, the two will settle matters besides the Dunlop title. Poole's only club defeat of the season was in the National League play-off last month at the hands of Macfie.

The men's final features Eddie Noyce, of Copthorne in Sussex, the No. 1 seed, against Gary Thwaites, of Carlisle.

RESULTS: National quarter-finals: Macfie (Richmond Town) 9-3, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6; Nicholl (Edgborough Priory) 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6. Semi-finals: Macfie (Richmond Town) 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6; Nicholl (Edgborough Priory) 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6. Final: Macfie (Richmond Town) 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6; Nicholl (Edgborough Priory) 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 1-9, 9-6.

## Sick Boardman takes 50 title and record

By PETER BRYAN

CHRIS Boardman, unable to do more than an hour's training last week because of influenza, left his sick-bed yesterday to win the British 50 miles time trial championship at Selby with a record ride. His time of 1hr 43min 51sec was an improvement of 2min 37sec on the record set by Ian Cammish in 1983.

Boardman, who said he had not been ill since he was about seven years old, went to bed on Saturday still not feeling well enough to compete but as a long shot set his alarm for 4am.

"I felt a little better when the alarm went this morning and decided to give it a go so as not to let the team down," he said. His appearance at the start must have inspired Gary Dighton, second last year, who again took silver with a personal best of 1hr 45min 01sec, and Pete Long-

bottom (1hr 45min 54sec, another personal best), with the result that his Manchester Wheelers broke their own national time record.

Gethin Butler, of Norwood Paragon, was second fastest at halfway. His 52min 02sec compared with Boardman's 51min 44sec but over the closing mile Dighton came from behind to finish 14sec ahead of the Londoner, relegating Butler to bronze.

Boardman has dominated short distance trials this year. His performance allowed him to join the elite group of riders who have won the 25 and 50 miles titles in the same year.

RESULTS: 1, C. Boardman (Manchester Wheelers), 1hr 43min 51sec (championship record); 2, G. Dighton (Manchester Wheelers), 1hr 45min 01sec; 3, G. Butler (Norwood Paragon), 1hr 45min 54sec. Manchester Wheelers (Boardman, Dighton and P. Longbottom), 5:14.46 (national record).

## Giro leader holds out to the finish

MILAN (Agencies) — Franco Chioccioli, who had worn the leader's pink jersey for 19 of the 21 stages, won the Giro d'Italia yesterday as his team colleague, Mario Cipollini, outspurred the bunch on the last 153-kilometre leg into Milan from Pavia. At 31, it was Chioccioli's first big success.

In runner-up position was another Italian, Claudio Chiappucci, who had placed second to Greg LeMond in the Tour de France last year. The next two places were also filled by Italians, Massimiliano Lelli and last year's Giro winner, Gianni Bugno. It was the first time home riders had occupied the first four positions since 1969.

Chioccioli, unheralded at the start of the race, won two of the mountain stages and the decisive time trial in the last week.

Results, page 35

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## The Wimbledon champion completes a successful Stella Artois tournament without dropping a set



Reaching out for victory: Not even the best-placed drives from Wheaton could find a way past Edberg in a one-sided final at Queen's Club yesterday

## Edberg's first Queen's title is with a minimum of fuss

By ANDREW LONGMORE  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

STEFAN Edberg put a further stamp on his Wimbledon credentials with a straight sets victory over David Wheaton in the final of the Stella Artois at Queen's yesterday. His 6-2, 6-3 victory also filled in a blank in his lengthy curriculum vitae. Surprisingly, it has taken the Swede eight attempts to join an impressive list of Stella champions — Leand, Becker, McEnroe and Comoros.

Edberg has not dropped a set in winning his first title and the only footnote which might perturb the Wimbledon champion as he prepares to defend his title is that no one has won both in the same year since Boris Becker in 1985. On the other hand, only two players — Bjorn Borg in 1980 and Becker two years ago — have won Wimbledon without first playing at Queen's. Edberg will prefer to absorb the second statistic.

"It's the best I have played close to Wimbledon, but there is still a lot of tennis left in me," he said.

Apart from the intermittent rain, which has disrupted six out of seven days and caused

the final to be delayed by two and a half hours yesterday, Edberg can rarely have had such a carefree week. He has not been forced into a tie-break nor, until Wheaton, had he met anyone ranked inside the top 50. Except for the cheque for £38,382 and a handsome trophy, it was more like a week of gentle practice, with different hitting partners each day.

Wheaton offered barely more than a token threat. He had beaten Edberg in their one meeting this year, at Key Biscayne in March, but this is Edberg's home patch and Wheaton, for all the bravado of his stars and stripes headband, seemed to sense that he was out of his depth and a long way from home.

He certainly could not find his feet. Several times he

spread his length on a court which had been covered but was still a little slippery on the surface. As he is 6ft 4in tall, there is considerable amount of Wheaton to spread, but his final slip might prove costly. In the fifth game of the second set, his legs slid from under him and he strained a hip muscle, which needed lengthy treatment from the trainer at the changeover. He carried on, but the match had long since passed him by anyway.

The one point of resistance from the American was verbal. Annoyed by Edberg's constant false starts on his service action, Wheaton complained to the umpire, Richard Kaufman. The appeal was not worth the effort, firstly because Edberg is the last person to resort to gamesmanship and secondly because

Edberg's concentration is not lightly affected. "I had a little trouble with the loss-up today," he said. "I am very careful because that was the cause of my injury a few years ago. I was a little surprised he complained but I didn't do it intentionally."

A tight first two games, in which both saved break-points, gave a false impression of what was to come. Edberg, his backhand working smoothly, broke the American in the fourth game, missed three more break points at 4-2 and broke again for the second time to take the first set in 43 minutes.

The second followed much the same pattern, Edberg taking his third title of the year after an hour and a half and earning himself a precious two day break.

"I wanted to win this one before the end of my career and now that I have, it's a nice win. When you win it's more enjoyable to practice, but don't worry, I've still got a lot of tennis left in me," Wheaton was unequivocal in his support of Edberg's case for Wimbledon. "He can definitely win it. He's playing now better than he was last year when he won it."

## Navratilova grabs the first of three

By BARRY WOOD

MARTINA Navratilova overcame a spirited challenge from Natalia Zvereva to win the first stage of her planned grasscourt triple, the Dow Classic at Edgbaston, yesterday.

Her 6-4, 7-6 victory was by no means comfortable, for her Soviet opponent was inspired throughout the afternoon. Having taken two and a half hours to dismiss the defending champion, Zina Garrison, 2-6, 7-6, 8-6, in a semi-final deal over from Saturday, Zvereva could have been forgiven for feeling a little weary when she returned to court just over an hour later.

She looked anything but. Her service returns were quite superb, and she constantly had Navratilova scrambling to reach her dropshots.

Navratilova found it difficult to take control of the match, although she held five break points in Zvereva's first two service games. She got a breakthrough in the ninth game, and served out for the set.

A similar pattern occurred in the second set, with Navratilova not breaking until her sixth break point, for 3-2. Navratilova then served for the match at 5-4, but Zvereva responded well to the challenge and broke for 5-5. Even the break was difficult, but Navratilova eventually staged a comeback.

Earlier, Zvereva had beaten Garrison with a resilient display, after twice facing defeat. Garrison served for the match at 5-4 and 6-5 in the second set, but

Zvereva merely used the situation as a rehearsal for the final. A poor start, which allowed Garrison to steal a 4-0 lead. But already Zvereva was earning break points, and from 4-0 she gave up only two points in three service games.

Having served twice for the match but without reaching match point, Garrison lost the tie-break 7-4, and although she recovered a break in the final set, and then broke to lead 4-2, her weak serve was further exposed when she hit her ninth double fault to go down break point.

The finish of the women's Europe class was so tight that last night the committee was still viewing a video to help them identify the first boats.

RESULTS: First race: 470 Metre: 1. N. Navratilova (Czech), 2. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 3. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 4. J. Morrison (USA), 5. S. Taylor (USA), 6. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 7. J. Morrison (USA), 8. S. Taylor (USA), 9. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 10. J. Morrison (USA), 11. S. Taylor (USA), 12. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 13. J. Morrison (USA), 14. S. Taylor (USA), 15. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 16. J. Morrison (USA), 17. S. Taylor (USA), 18. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 19. J. Morrison (USA), 20. S. Taylor (USA), 21. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 22. J. Morrison (USA), 23. S. Taylor (USA), 24. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 25. J. Morrison (USA), 26. S. Taylor (USA), 27. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 28. J. Morrison (USA), 29. S. Taylor (USA), 30. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 31. J. Morrison (USA), 32. S. Taylor (USA), 33. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 34. J. Morrison (USA), 35. S. Taylor (USA), 36. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 37. J. Morrison (USA), 38. S. Taylor (USA), 39. P. Brostrom (Sweden), 40. J. Morrison (USA), 41. S. Taylor (USA), 42. P. 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British hopes swiftly disappear in the US Open

## Woosnam fades as Stewart and Simpson forge on

From MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, CHASKA, MINNESOTA

IAN Woosnam yesterday completed what, for him, has been a disappointing US Open golf championship as Payne Stewart and Scott Simpson shared the lead moving into the final round at Hazeltine.

Stewart, dressed in the purple and white colours of the Minnesota Vikings, who play in the National Football League, made the first move in the hot sunshine. He extracted a birdie from the 3rd hole to move to seven under par.

Stewart won the US PGA championship in 1989 and Simpson won the US Open in 1987. Stewart missed two weeks of the season earlier in the year because of a neck injury and Simpson has been remodelling his swing with David Leadbetter.

They seemed at the start to have the championship between them. Larry Nelson, however, moved out of the pack with three birdies in his first seven holes. Nelson has won only ten tournaments in 20 years as a professional but three of them are major championships.

Fred Couples, Brian Camm, Jim Gallagher and Scott Hoch were among the other Americans hoping both Stewart and Simpson would come back to them.

Woosnam, the Masters champion, lost his way during a windswept third round of 79. It ended the Welshman's interest and an outward half of 41 increased his disappointment.

His opening drive finished buried under the lip of a bunker. But he retrieved the

### EARLY FINISHERS

US unless stated  
298: S Pale, 72, 75, 77, 74.  
300: P Michelson, 73, 72, 80, 75; L Mize, 73, 78, 75, 1 Woosnam (GB), 73, 68, 75, 80.  
302: D Graham (Aus), 74, 71, 80, 77.  
303: S Utley, 70, 71, 81, 76.  
304: J Adams, 72, 75, 78, 79.  
305: T Snodgrass, 74, 73, 80, 78; L Wadkins, 76, 70, 80, 79; W Grady (Aus), 73, 74, 78, 80.

shot he dropped at the first by hitting a wedge from 112 yards to five feet for a birdie at the next.

Thereafter, however, he could do little right. He had hoped to keep alive the prospect of winning all four major championships in one year but there was a flaw in his swing when he arrived here which manifested itself as the championship unfolded.

Woosnam hit left of the 4th to drop his next shot and he drove into the rough at the 6th, where he took three putts. At the 8th, he took five for the second day in succession. On Saturday, he hit into the water; yesterday, he took a five-iron and struck the ball over the green into the rough. He chipped once, twice and for a third time. In the end, he had to hole from five feet for a five.

Three more putts at the 9th took him out in 41 and he dropped more shots at the 13th and 14th holes.

Woosnam will now turn his attention towards the Open Championship at Royal Birkdale next month, when Nick Faldo will be defending the title he won at St Andrews last year.

Faldo lost the shot he gained with a birdie at the 1st by taking five at the next. It was a similar scenario several holes later when he followed a birdie at the 7th with a bogey at the next. He was eventually out in 36 for the third round in succession.

The problem for Faldo throughout this championship has been his putter. In fact, it has been his problem all year. He is becoming increasingly frustrated on the greens. "If I could get the ball into the hole then it would be a different ball game," he said.

Faldo had hoped that the US Open would inspire him. His season is built around the major championships and he was disappointed to lose in April the Masters title he had held for two years. "I've got to start working now towards having the game right for the Open," he said. "My worry is that I can't work much harder than I have been doing."

Tony Jacklin won the US Open when last it was held at Hazeltine. That was in 1970 since when only David Graham, of Australia, with his win in 1981 has interrupted Americans dominating the Championship.

Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, Craig Parry, of Australia, and Sandy Lyle were the only non-Americans among the leading 18 when the final round started.

Price placed himself under pressure by dropping a shot at each of the first two holes. Parry began with a birdie but he took five at the 5th. Lyle recovered from a five at the first with a birdie at the 5th. Then, he gave that shot back at the 6th.

José-Maria Olazábal, of Spain, played the outward half in 34. He holed from seven feet for a birdie at the 3rd and from five feet for another at the 7th. Olazábal has been less than satisfied with his game since he finished runner-up to Woosnam at the Masters.

### Rafferty walk-out unhelpful

CHASKA — The decision of Ronan Rafferty to withdraw midway through the second round of the US Open without offering an explanation to the United States Golf Association has not improved the prospect of more European golfers competing in the championship next year (Mitchell Platt writes).

It is understood that the USGA championship committee had discussed the possibility of increasing the number of special invitations to foreign players from seven. Rafferty's actions, however, will have given those on the committee who are against a change additional ammunition to wish should it come down to a vote.

The USGA had still not heard from Rafferty yesterday, although a local newspaper reported that it was believed that Rafferty was having family-related concerns.

Grant Spaeth, the British-born president of the USGA, said: "Tony Gray, who has told me that there will be a letter of apology in the post. Everybody makes mistakes."

Johansson triumphs, page 32



In the rough: Woosnam, for whom little went right at Chaska yesterday, chips at the 1st

## Bitter taste is left by not-so-sweet 16th

From MITCHELL PLATT

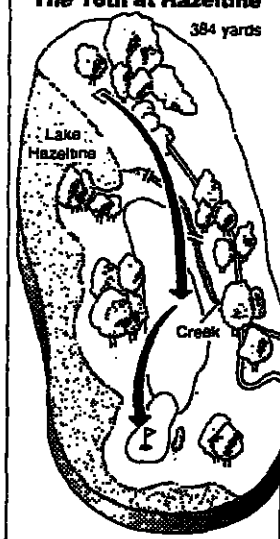
WHEN Hale Irwin, the defending US Open champion, asked Rees Jones, the man who remodelled the Hazeltine course, what he had to do to win again, the reply was simple. "He told me to make four fours on the 16th," Irwin said.

The carry over a bay of swamp-grass from the tee of the 384-yard, par-four dog-leg right, is 200 yards. On the right is Lake Hazeltine, on the left a fairway-long creek.

Without the wind on the first two days, most players were taking a one-iron. Into the wind during the third round on Saturday, they switched to a driver. "With that club in your hand the hole needs a little more fairway on the left," Ian Woosnam said, after having seen his hopes of victory further dented by taking a six.

With the wind blowing from the northwest across the prairie at more than 25mph, it meant that for the first time in the championship, the players could feel it in their faces on the 16th tee. Not one made a birdie.

What alarms the players most is that the green is



designed to receive a shot hit by a short iron. Going in with a seven-iron or more, as was the case on Saturday, severely reduces the prospect of keeping the ball on the putting surface.

Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, one of only two players to better the par of 72 on Saturday, said: "It is the most terrifying hole into the wind we have come across since the 12th at Augusta."

### HOW THE 16TH HAS BEEN PLAYED

Round	Eagles	Birdies	Par	Bogeys	Others	Av
First	0	17	87	32	4	4.24
Second	0	17	87	35	14	4.32
Third	0	0	86	28	12	4.94
Overall	0	31	155	66	35	4.42

The water off the tee is just the beginning. If you make a mistake, you could be there all day.

The not-so-sweet 16th left a bitter taste in Fuzzy Zoeller's mouth. Zoeller, who won the title in 1984, said: "The hole is an architect's dream. It is beautiful to look at but it just doesn't work. If I ever designed a hole like that, it would be my last one. The people I designed it for would never ask me back."

Andy North, twice the US Open champion, and the PGA champion, Wayne Grady, of Australia, both had eight. And when Scott Hoch, the American lying four strokes behind the leaders going into the final round, was asked what thoughts a player in contention might have yesterday looking out from the 16th tee, he said: "Try not to make a ten."

Jones said that he felt compelled to design one hole at Hazeltine which the players could complain about, because that way they would not complain about the other 17.

"The player has to really think about what he is going to do with each shot," Jones said. "That's why I call the hole 'The Thinker'."

Jack Nicklaus, who fits that description as a player, said: "It's not the best hole on the course. But it is the one you had to think would play the largest factor in the tournament."

## Robson is able to savour a Dutch success

By NICHOLAS HARLING

BOBBY Robson, a manager more accustomed to failure than triumph on football's vital occasions, was able to savour the rare and refreshing taste of success in The Netherlands yesterday. For only the third time in his career as a club manager, Robson conquered the last-day palpitations that have seriously restricted honours coming his way.

The frown that seems to perpetually cloud Robson's features was lifted by PSV Eindhoven's 3-0 home victory over Volendam. With a superior goal difference of two over Ajax, who were level on points, the result was good enough to bring PSV the title for the twelfth time, although the Amsterdam club defeated Vitesse Arnhem by the same score.

"I'm very happy," he said. "We would have liked to clinch the title earlier in the season. Winning the title on the last day always brings a lot of tension and drama."

A league championship had been beyond Robson in all his years at Ipswich, even when in 1981 and 1982 the East Anglians seemed to have it in their grasp at first Liverpool's and then Aston Villa's expense. The final day of the 1982 season had been especially galling. Less than a month after playing Villa off Villa Park to gain an apparently decisive victory, Ipswich conceded the title to them after losing 2-1 at Middlesbrough.

An FA Cup victory over Arsenal in 1978 and UEFA Cup triumph in 1981 were inadequate compensations for what might have been. Even Robson's England players were stricken by the tension as they came to take the penalties in the World Cup semi-final against West Germany in Turin last year. In the circumstances, he did well not to communicate his nerves to the Eindhoven players after the depressing 4-1 defeat in Groningen the previous Sunday. It had been with a subsequent unconvincing display of enforced calm that he had said with trembling hands: "The manager isn't worried by

erves, even if the players are." He had fooled no one. At least, he has always looked slightly more relaxed in The Netherlands with less of the pressure than he suffered in England at the hands of the scandal mongers among the tabloid press. But with Eindhoven's goal difference halved in the course of the defeats suffered by both clubs last week, Robson was hovering on the edge of discovering whether a Dutch vote of confidence carried as much — or little — weight as an English one. He had been told by his chairman that he would carry on for at least another year whatever yesterday's outcome.

He need not have worried. The industrious midfielder player, Vandenbrouck shot Eindhoven ahead on the half hour but by half-time, Bergkamp had also fired a goal for Ajax, heard by Robson listening on the radio. Roy shot Ajax closer in the fifth minute but Ellerman's 59th-minute goal for Eindhoven cancelled that one out. Popescu's 84th minute goal as good as assured Robson's team of the title.

"I'm pleased for everybody around me," Robson concluded. "Everybody has worked hard and supported me. It's been a joint effort. We've worked well and been a good team. I think the players deserved it because they've been at the top of the league all season and if we'd lost it today, on the last match, it would have been rather a cruel twist of fate."



Robson: happy

## Francis appointed by Wednesday

By IAN ROSS

TREVOR Francis, the former England international forward, will today be named manager of Sheffield Wednesday. Francis, aged 37, accepted an invitation to become the South Yorkshire club's fifteenth post-war manager at the conclusion of an emergency board meeting at Hillsborough yesterday morning.

Francis succeeds Ron Atkinson, who resigned to take over at Aston Villa 11 days ago, despite leading the club to success in the Rumbelows Cup and promotion back to the first division last season.

Although the Wednesday board had spent the last week seeking a manager of proven ability and far greater experience, yesterday's decision was unanimous. Ironically, Atkinson had

urged his chairman, David Richards, to appoint Francis shortly before he left Hillsborough for the final time.

Wednesday turned their attentions to Francis after Ray Harford, the manager of Wimbledon, had made it clear that he was to remain at Plough Lane.

Unlike his predecessor, Francis, who lives in Surrey, has indicated that he is willing to move north to be nearer his place of work.

Today's expected announcement will signal the start of Francis's second spell as a League manager. He was in charge at Queen's Park Rangers for ten, often turbulent, months in 1989-90 before he was dismissed. Francis joined Wednesday on a free transfer in February 1990.

## Macari to join Stoke

LOU Macari is expected to be appointed manager of Stoke City, of the third division, within the next 24 hours (a Special Correspondent writes).

Peter Coates, the Stoke chairman, said: "I have spoken to him again and now

await his response. I hope to have an answer by tomorrow and I'm as confident as you can be in these situations."

Macari, the manager of Birmingham City, has been convinced of Stoke's ambition and is believed to have agreed personal terms.

## British America's Cup campaign on the cheap

By BARRY PICKTHALL

PETER de Savary's British challenge for the America's Cup will be a lean, Corinthian affair with the yacht's 22-strong crew and shore squad led by Lawrie Smith living in tents on the beach when they arrive in San Diego in December.

"We are all on bread and water," de Savary said yesterday. "No one is going to make any money out of this challenge. This is going to be a real David and Goliath battle against the Japanese with 30 different sponsors and a lot of Italian money. The temptation for them is to squander those resources. We, on the other hand, will be disciplined and precise."

"We have a small, close-knit team who have been together for 12 years. We all believe we have a design that can win the America's Cup for Britain. We had a brains trust meeting here two weeks ago and are totally convinced we are on the right track. None of us are doing it for the money. We are not going there just to compete. We are going to win."

De Savary's Port Pendennis challenge has already secured a base next to Iain Murray's equally frugal Australian challenge in Mission Bay, north of San Diego, but tents are a far cry from the lavish mansions rented for the crew when de Savary last challenged for the Cup in 1983.

Lawrie Smith wrinkled his nose up when I mentioned it, but if tents were good enough for General Schwarzkopf to win a war from, then they are good enough for me — and the crew," de Savary said from his Scottish castle.

De Savary's band of campers include Rob Lipsett, the builder, who commences construction at his Cowes yard today on a wages-only basis, the design team of Ian Howlett and Phil Morrison, Smith, the skipper, and the Australian, Charles Cochrane, the team manager who worked with Smith in Murray's defeated Kookaburra defence campaign in 1987. De Savary will play the part of non-sailing captain.

Smith is as impressed with the design as his leader. "It bears little resemblance to anything seen in San Diego," de Savary said. "All the other boats have been designed on 12-metre yacht principles. We have started with a clean sheet of paper and are convinced we have a breakthrough design. We are working on the aviation principle."

"We have invested all our time and money on research and development. Like Concord, she will fly from day one. We have the skills and experience not to have to build a series of boats to prove it."

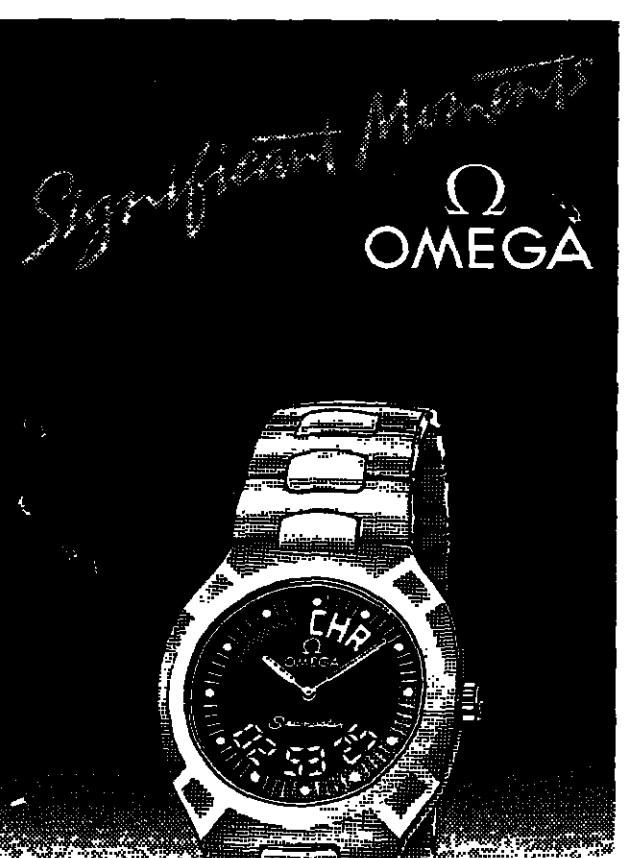
De Savary and "a few friends" have agreed to underwrite the challenge, which will

cost in excess of £5 million, but he still hopes to recover £2 million in sponsorship. "I have nothing to sell to the public or a need to advertise, so sponsorship is no use to me," de Savary said, "but for one company wanting to be in the public eye, it is the best bill-board on offer."

The sponsorship will also raise a sign from the crew. If the full £2 million is forthcoming, perhaps there will be sufficient in the kitty for a few down-town hotel rooms in San Diego.

Elite pacemakers, page 35

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